

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2011

The Council of the City of Opelousas, Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, convened in a regular session on this 10th of March 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

With Mayor Donald R. Cravins, Sr. presiding, the meeting was called to order.

The Mayor requested the City Clerk to call the roll and the following Council members were PRESENT: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin. ABSENT: None.

A moment of silent meditation was observed and Alderman Joseph Charles led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 02/08/2011.

On a motion by Alderman Joseph Charles, seconded by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the agenda, with the following changes: **adding under the RESOLUTIONS section, Item No. 23-A, "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS TO OBTAIN A VISA BUSINESS CARD THROUGH AMERICAN BANK"; Item No. 23-B, "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR DONALD R. CRAVINS, SR., TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY-COMPREHENSIVE RESILIENCY PROGRAM APPLICATION"; correcting Item No. 31 under the CONSENTS section by adding "and thirty-three (33) calendar days, effective 03/22/2011," immediately following the phrase "effective 02/20/2011,".**

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation by Mayor Donald Cravins, Sr., to Mr. J. A. Allen. Mr. Allen was not in attendance.

Presentation by Mr. Darryl Wagley for Employee of the Month. The Employee of the Month chosen for February 2011 is Mrs. Angelic Brown and she has been employed with the Executive Department for 8 years. Mrs. Brown is married and has three children.

Presentation by Mrs. Elinor Eaglin. Mrs. Eaglin was not in attendance. Alderman Julius Alsandor made a brief presentation on Mrs. Eaglin's behalf. He stated that Mrs. Eaglin and about 25 other retirees have opened the Holy Ghost diner to feed the homeless and needy in Opelousas. Recently the diner received a donation of almost 300 pounds of meat by Mayor Donald Cravins, Sr. Alderman Alsandor felt that the Mayor deserved some recognition for doing this for the people of the City of Opelousas.

Presentation by Mr. Mike Hefner regarding reapportionment. Mr. Hefner was not in attendance.

Discuss request for pre-approval for CONDITIONAL USE of property in NMU Zone located at 1717 S. Union Street to build a new office for Massage Therapy on property (Heidi Lee Andrus). On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, it was resolved to approve the request for pre-approval for CONDITIONAL USE of property in NMU Zone located at 1717 S. Union Street to build a new office for Massage Therapy on property (Heidi Lee Andrus). A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Presentation by Alderman Julius Alsandor regarding budget cuts. A motion was made by Alderman Julius Alsandor that each department take a 2 ½ percent cut across the board for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Alderman Reginald Tatum stated that would wait on making a decision because he had not seen the proposed cuts yet. The motion was withdrawn by Alderman Alsandor.

Presentation by Attorney Pride Doran. *Attorney Doran was absent.* Mayor Cravins spoke about the 2010 Census which reflects that Opelousas lost 27 percent of its residents. He stated that numerous factors, such as traffic counts and utility users, would indicate that this is not so. If we are indeed a city of only 16,000 people, then we are in a state of limbo because then we are too big to qualify for USDA funding and too small to qualify for other funding. Mayor Cravins stated that most of the City's funding is on a per capita basis. If this issue cannot be fixed, then the City will be in a very bad position.

At this time Alderman Julius Alsandor brought back the budget issue. He stated that the Parks and Recreation Department suggested an increase in fees to play baseball, basketball, and flag football by \$5.00. On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, it was resolved to increase the Parks and Recreation sports fees by \$5.00.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Engineer's Monthly Status Report. *Mr. William Jarrell was not present.*

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INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CREATION OF A JUDICIAL BUILDING FUND AND IMPOSITION OF A SERVICE CHARGE PURSUANT TO LSA-RS 13:1910.

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CREATION OF A JUDICIAL BUILDING FUND AND IMPOSITION OF A SERVICE CHARGE PURSUANT TO LSA-RS 13:1910

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature enacted LSA-RS 13:1910 (the "Act") which allows a city court to impose a service charge not to exceed ten dollars per filing in each proceeding where a fine is imposed or court costs are ordered to be paid which shall be in addition to all other fines, cost, or forfeitures lawfully imposed; and,

WHEREAS, the Act further provides that all monies collected in accordance with the Act shall be forwarded to the court and placed in an account dedicated exclusively to the acquisition, leasing, construction, equipping, and maintenance of new and existing city courts and for the maintenance and payment of any bond indebtedness on any such existing facilities and that the court shall have control over the fund and all disbursements made from the fund; and,

WHEREAS, the Act requires the court to obtain prior approval of the local governing authority within the territorial jurisdiction of the court, through the adoption of a resolution or ordinance, before the fund is created and the fees authorized by the Act are imposed; and,

WHEREAS, the Opelousas City Court ("City Court") has requested approval from the City of Opelousas to create the judicial fund and impose the service charge as allowed by the Act.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Opelousas, Louisiana, that the City of Opelousas approves the request of the City Court to create a judicial fund and impose the service fee as allowed under LSA-RS 13:1910 as follows:

1. There shall be a Judicial Building Fund (the "Fund") established as allowed under LSA-RS 13:1910.
2. There shall be a service charge of ten (\$10.00) dollars per filing (the "Building Fee") in each proceeding in Opelousas City Court ("City Court") where a fine is imposed or court costs are ordered to be paid which shall be in addition to all other fines, cost, or forfeitures lawfully imposed.
3. The Building Fee shall be forwarded to City Court and placed in the Fund. The Judge of City Court shall have control over the Fund and all disbursements made from the Fund; however, the Fund shall be used exclusively for the acquisition, leasing, construction, equipping, and maintenance of a new and/or existing city court building and for the maintenance and payment of any bond indebtedness on any such existing facilities.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, it was resolved to grant authority to advertise a Public Hearing to adopt AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CREATION OF A JUDICIAL BUILDING FUND AND IMPOSITION OF A SERVICE CHARGE PURSUANT TO LSA-RS 13:1910.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

BIDS

Accept bids for Demolition of City Buildings (Bid #02-11).

There was an issue of whether or not the City was aware that there was asbestos or lead in the buildings. A motion was made by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderman Julius Alsandor to reject the bids and re-advertise for bids for Demolition of City Buildings. Attorney Frank Trosclair stated that the City is protected because the specifications are broad enough to cover what needs to be done in terms of liability on the part of the City. Mr. Donald Green stated that three years ago, a company came and did an assessment of all the buildings (old power plant and water plant) and according to their assessment, there was no lead in the old water plant but there was an asbestos problem in the water towers as well as the old power plant. At this time Mayor Cravins stated that the previous motion to reject the bids should be withdrawn and the bids should be opened. Mr. Kim Fontenot stated that one of the bidders did tell him that they thought there was lead in both the water plant and the power plant; however, it wasn't an issue for their demolition. The motion was withdrawn.

Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World for bids for Demolition of City Buildings (Bid #02-11), six (6) bids were received:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LICENSE NO.</u>	<u>BID</u>
Zimmer-Eschette Service II, LLC	50786/250418	\$340,092.00
Stranco, Inc.	16724	\$356,000.00
American KIE Steel & Commodities, LLC (no bid bond)	proposed a 60/40% cash split of all proceeds generated from sale of sale of various metals and assets of the 3 properties	
Young's General Contracting, Inc.	40374	\$213,386.00
Ducote Wrecking Company, LLC	39859	\$347,200.00
Patriot Construction and Equipment, LLC	53342	\$714,000.00

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, it was resolved to take the bids under advisement and award to the lowest bidder meeting specifications. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

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Accept bids for Uniforms in the Police Department (Bid #03-11). Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World for bids for Uniforms in the Police Department (Bid #03-11), two (2) bids were received:

LAWMEN'S & SHOOTERS' SUPPLY INC. - NO BID

GUIDRY'S UNIFORMS

<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>PRICE, each</u>	<u>OVERSIZE CHG</u>
1. Long sleeve shirt, white w/piggy back trim, unstitched epaulets, gold P buttons Brand Bid - Southeastern Style # Z9103	\$50.90	NONE
2. Short sleeve shirt, white w/piggy back trim, unstitched epaulets, gold P buttons Brand Bid - Southeastern Style # Z9203	\$49.90	NONE
3. Long sleeve shirt, navy w/piggy back trim, unstitched Brand Bid - Southeastern Style # Z9101	\$50.90	NONE
4. Short sleeve shirt, navy w/piggy back trim, unstitched epaulets Brand Bid - Southeastern Style # Z9201Z	\$49.90	NONE
5. Long sleeve shirt, navy polyester, wool, lycra Brand Bid - Flying Cross Style #07W89862	\$59.95	NONE
6. Short sleeve shirt, navy polyester, wool, lycra Brand Bid - Flying Cross Style #57R81862	\$57.95	NONE
7. Pant, polyester, wool, lycra Brand Bid - Flying Cross Style #47280-3200	\$64.95	NONE up to size 50.
8. Raincoat/reversible, black/hi-vis yellow Brand Bid - Blauer Style # 733/123	\$143.90	NONE up to 3X. 4X-above have oversize.
9. Rain slicker, 3 piece reversible, black/hi-vis yellow, with hood, pant	N/A	N/A
10. Jacket, water proof, wind proof, with hood and pull down reflective panels Brand Bid - Blauer Style#9810Z	\$159.90	NONE up to 3X. 4X-above have oversize.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum, seconded by Alderman Julius Alsandor and unanimously carried, it was resolved to take the bid under advisement and award pending review by police chief.

Accept bids for Type E Multi Grade Mix and Type B Cold Mix (Bid #04-11). Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World for bids for Type E Multi Grade Mix and Type B Cold Mix (Bid #04-11), two (2) bids were received:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Price</u>
<u>Material Resources, Inc.</u>	
<u>Type E Multi Grade Cold Mix</u>	
<u>BULK</u>	
Picked up at Material Resources facility:	\$89.00 per ton.
Delivered to City of Opelousas:	\$97.00 per ton. Delivered by trailer, 25 tons.
<u>50# BAGS</u>	
Picked up at Material Resources facility:	\$9.25 per bag.
Delivered to City of Opelousas:	\$11.00 per bag. Minimum 1 pallet, 42 bags per pallet.
<u>East Texas Asphalt Co., Ltd.</u> (Lufkin Plant)	
<i>Any material delivered by ETA will be subject to an additional delivery charge, which will be calculated at the rates in effect on the day of delivery.</i>	
<u>Hot Mixed Asphalt</u>	
Type B, C, or D	\$67.00 per ton.
Type F	\$73.00 per ton.
<u>Cold Laid Asphalt</u>	
Cold Patch Mix (oil sand)	\$61.00 per ton.
H.M.C.L. (AC)	\$66.00 per ton.
HMCL (MC)	\$73.00 per ton.
Super Patch Mix	\$85.00 per ton.
<u>Aggregate Material</u>	
GR2	\$22.65 per ton.
Limestone Base	\$19.00 per ton.
SB2 Base	\$25.15 per ton.
Rip Rap (1x3 & 3x5)	\$31.50 per ton.
(1x12")	\$36.50 per ton.
(18" Plus)	\$45.50 per ton.

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Ag Lime \$25.50 per ton.
Crushed Stone \$32.50 per ton.
Pea Gravel \$30.00 per ton.
Sand \$15.00 per ton.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum, seconded by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., and unanimously carried, it was resolved to take the bids under advisement and award to the lowest bidder pending review by department head.

Accept bids for Chlorine (Bid #05-11). Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World for bids for Chlorine (Bid #05-11), two (2) bids were received:

Bidder	Bid Amount
Harcros Chemicals	\$820.00/one ton cylinder \$105.00/one hundred fifty pound cylinder
DPC Enterprises, L.P.	\$734.00/one ton cylinder \$105.00/one hundred fifty pound cylinder

On a motion by Alderman Blair Briggs, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to take the bids under advisement and award to the lowest bidder pending review by department head.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World, a Public Hearing was opened at 6:05 p.m. for the purpose of amending the budget from line item to line item. Mayor Cravins stated that Mr. Darryl Wagley spoke with the auditors on the necessity of having a public hearing on these items. It is not necessary since it is not additional money. The amendments to the budget should be presented to the Council prior to the meeting just showing them what the amendments are, but it is not necessary every month to have a public hearing. Alderman Reginald Tatum stated that the public wants to hear and know how the money is being moved around.

Ms. Linda Walker requested additional funds to pay bills which total \$2,885.30 for the Municipal Civil Service attorney. She stated that she was only granted \$1,500.00 in her budget but she has already used up those funds.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:10 p.m.

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., it was resolved to rescind public hearings for the amending of the budget from line item to line item.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., and Blair Briggs

NAYS: Reginald Tatum and Jacqueline Martin

ABSENT: None

DEPARTMENT	AMOUNT	FROM	TO
Museum	\$ 1,000.00	54610-3303 (Utilities)	54610-3403 (Museum Building)
	\$ 1,200.00	54610-3310 (Travel & Meetings)	54610-3403 (Museum Building)
	\$ 300.00	54610-3323 (Conservation)	54610-3403 (Museum Building)
	\$ 300.00	54610-3338 (Educational Outreach)	54610-3403 (Museum Building)
	\$ 500.00	54610-3371 (Computer Costs)	54610-3403 (Museum Building)
	\$ 600.00	54610-3379 (Insurance)	54610-3403 (Museum Building)
	\$ 700.00	54610-3380 (Acquisitions)	54610-3403 (Museum Building)
Administrative/Executive	\$ 450.00	54130-3303 (Utilities)	54130-2233 (Uniforms)
	\$ 9,000.00	54130-3303 (Utilities)	54130-3310 (Travel & Meetings)
	\$ 3,000.00	54130-3303 (Utilities)	54130-3371 (Computer Costs)
	\$ 2,000.00	54130-3303 (Utilities)	54130-7063 (Telephone System)
	\$ 550.00	54130-3303 (Utilities)	54130-4230 (Gas & Oil)
	\$ 5,000.00	54130-5311 (Bldg. Maint & Repair)	54130-3374 (Consultant Fees)

On a motion by Alderman Joseph Charles and seconded by Aldermen Louis Butler Jr., and Reginald Tatum, it was resolved to increase the Municipal Civil Service attorney fees line item by \$3,000.00 and approve the line item transfers as presented.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World, a Public Hearing was opened at 6:12 p.m. to amend Section 27-2 of the Opelousas Code of Ordinances by adding Non-Emergency Medical Transportation to the exempted forms of transportation.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:13 p.m.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Aldermen Louis Butler, Jr., and Joseph Charles, the following Ordinance was offered for adoption:

ORDINANCE NO. 4 OF 2011

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 27-2 OF THE OPELOUSAS CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION TO THE EXEMPTED FORMS OF TRANSPORTION

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Opelousas, Louisiana:

SECTION 1. Section 27-2 of the Opelousas Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

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SECTION 27-2. Exemptions of certain forms of transportation. The provisions of this article shall not apply to any of the buses operated in the city pursuant to a franchise issued by the City of Opelousas; nor to any motor vehicle operating under a certificate issued by the Public Service Commission of the State of Louisiana, or the Interstate Commerce Commission, and controlled and regulated by either of such commissions; *nor does it include vehicles providing non-emergency medical transportation services to those whose handicap, illness, injury or other incapacitation makes it impractical to be transported by a regular common carrier such as bus or taxicab service, but who neither need nor expect to need medical attention enroute*; nor to any motor vehicle passing through the city with passengers who have been received as such outside of the city limits, provided that such vehicle does not take on, pick up or receive any passengers while inside the corporate limits of the city; nor to any motor vehicle stationed or located seven (7) miles, or more, beyond the city limits, which transports passengers for hire into the city from a point outside the corporate limits, but does not take on or pick up or receive any passengers in the corporate limits. *Those vehicles claiming exemption from this provisions as non-emergency medical transport must provide proof of certification as such by a duly authorized federal, state or municipal agency or department tasked with making such determination, including but not necessarily limited to the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Health Standards Section.*

Said Ordinance having been introduced on February 8, 2011, by Alderman Reginald Tatum, notice of public hearing having been published, said public hearing having been held, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, a record vote was taken and the following results were had:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR

Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World, a Public Hearing was opened at 6:15 p.m. to amend Section 27-44(a) of the Opelousas Code of Ordinances by exempting Non-Emergency Medical Transportation from the definition of "Ambulances". The phrase "not licensed as ambulances" was added after "Non-Emergency Medical Transportation".

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:22 p.m.

On a motion by Alderman Joseph Charles and seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum, the following Ordinance was offered for adoption:

ORDINANCE NO. 5 OF 2011

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 27-44 (a) OF THE OPELOUSAS CODE OF ORDINANCES BY EXEMPTING NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION NOT LICENSED AS AMBULANCES FROM THE DEFINITION OF "AMBULANCES"

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Opelousas, Louisiana:

SECTION 1. Section 27-44 (a) of the Opelousas Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTION 27-44(a). Ambulance. "Ambulance" or "private ambulance" means any privately owned vehicle equipped or use for transporting the wounded, injured, sick or dead, including emergency vehicles used for that purpose, but not including funeral coaches used exclusively as such, *nor does it include vehicles providing non-emergency medical transportation services to those whose handicap, illness, injury or other incapacitation makes it impractical to be transported by a regular common carrier such as bus or taxicab service, but who neither need nor expect to need medical attention enroute. Those vehicles claiming exemption from this provisions as non-emergency medical transport must provide proof of certification as such by a duly authorized federal, state or municipal agency or department tasked with making such determination, including but not necessarily limited to the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Health Standards Section.*


Said Ordinance having been introduced on February 8, 2011, by Alderman Reginald Tatum, notice of public hearing having been published, said public hearing having been held, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, a record vote was taken and the following results were had:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR

Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World, a Public Hearing was opened at 6:25 p.m. regarding the following properties:

- a. Tiffnie Albertha Garrett ETALS, C/O Barbara Patterson, 1120 Pandora Street (Abandoned House Wood Frame Structure) – *Property abandoned for quite some time – Recommendation is for condemnation for demolition.*
- b. Opelousas, City of, Tiffnie Albertha Garrett ETALS T/S, Villery Street (2 Abandoned Mobile Homes) Deeded 2004 City Taxes – *Recommendation is for demolition*
- c. Helping Hands Rental Inc., C/O James Ballard, Rice Lane (2 Abandoned Metal Buildings) – *Recommendation is for condemnation for demolition.*
- d. BM6 LLC, Lynette Angelle T/S, 810 N. Main Street (Abandoned Wood Frame Structure) – *Recommendation is for condemnation for demolition.*
- e. St. Landry Parish Police Jury, Charlie Lafue ETALS T/S, 1037 Pandora Street (Abandoned Wood Frame Structure) Deeded 2003 Parish & 2004 City Taxes - *Recommendation is for condemnation for demolition.*
- f. Lemelle Christian Action Resources Inc., Lecarp Inc., 1158 S. Railroad Avenue (Abandoned Brick Veneer Structure) – *Recommendation is for condemnation for demolition.*

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The Public Hearing was closed at 6:30 p.m.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderman Julius Alsandor, it was resolved to adopt the recommendations made in the Public Hearing. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTIONS

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE ARC OF ST. LANDRY IN THEIR ENDEAVOR TO PURCHASE THE OLD OPELOUSAS DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER BUILDING.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles, the following Resolution was offered for adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 5 OF 2011
A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE ARC OF ST LANDRY IN THE PURCHASE
OF THE OLD OPELOUSAS DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER BUILDING.

WHEREAS, the ARC of St. Landry's mission is to improve the quality of life for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families through advocacy services and support.

WHEREAS, the ARC of St. Landry will accomplish this mission through the following service areas: Vocational Services, Support Services and Community Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor and Board of Aldermen supports the ARC of St. Landry in their endeavor to purchase the old Opelousas Developmental Center.

The foregoing resolution was duly submitted to a vote and adopted as follows on the 10th day of March, 2011.

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS TO OBTAIN A VISA BUSINESS CARD THROUGH AMERICAN BANK.

On a motion by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., and seconded by Alderman Julius Alsandor, the following Resolution was offered for adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 6 OF 2011
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS TO OBTAIN A VISA BUSINESS CARD THROUGH AMERICAN
BANK WITH ONLY DEPARTMENT HEADS AND THE MAYOR HAVING ACCESS TO USE

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Opelousas deem it necessary that the City obtain a Visa business card for the transacting of certain business matters related to City operations; and

WHEREAS, the current fiscal agent for the City of Opelousas is American Bank & Trust Company;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Aldermen of the City of Opelousas, State of Louisiana, do hereby authorize Mayor Donald R. Cravins, Sr., to obtain a Visa Business Card through American Bank & Trust Company with the stipulation that only Department Heads and the Mayor have access to use said card to transact business for the City of Opelousas.

The above resolution, having been submitted to a vote, was adopted on this 10th day of March 2011 as follows:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR DONALD R. CRAVINS, SR., TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY - COMPREHENSIVE RESILIENCY PROGRAM APPLICATION.

On a motion by Alderman Joseph Charles and Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin and seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum, the following Resolution was offered for adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 7 OF 2011
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR DONALD R. CRAVINS, SR., TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE
GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE
LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY - COMPREHENSIVE RESILIENCY PROGRAM APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana - Louisiana Recovery Authority through the Office of Community Development, Disaster Recovery Unit has received a competitive application under the Comprehensive Resiliency Program for Plan/Zoning Ordinance Development and Code Enforcement Staff Ramp Up; and,

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Resiliency Program established by the Louisiana Recovery Authority - Office of Community Development is a 100% grant that is established for the purposes of furthering the recovery efforts from Hurricanes Gustav / Ike;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Aldermen of the City of Opelousas, State of Louisiana, does hereby authorize Mayor Donald R. Cravins, Sr., to sign any and all documents pertaining to Louisiana Recovery Authority – Comprehensive Resiliency Program Application.

The above resolution having been submitted to a roll call vote was adopted on this 10th day of March, 2011 as follows:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR

CONSENTS

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the administrative leave with pay for Police Communications Officer Pamela Thompson for personnel complaints relative to unbecoming conduct (prior and recent), effective 02/11/2011 for a period not to exceed sixty days in order for the appointing authority to conduct an investigation.

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the recommendation for suspension of Police Officer Donovan Roberts for eight (8) hours without pay for violation of R.S. 33:2500 – Corrective and disciplinary action for maintaining standards of service – (A) The tenure of persons who have been regularly and permanently inducted into positions of the classified service shall be during good behavior. However, the appointing authority may remove any employee from the service, or take such disciplinary action as the circumstances warrant in the manner provided for following reason: (4) Insubordination.

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the recommendation for suspension of Police Officer First Class Tyron Andrepont for eight (8) hours without pay for violation of the Opelousas Police Department Policy and Procedures Manual: *use of tobacco when passengers are present in the vehicle is prohibited.*

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the recommendation for suspension of Police Officer Meddrick Pickens for sixteen (16) hours without pay for violation of the Opelousas Police Department Policy and Procedures Manual: General Order 14 Conduct – 14.3.8 – Improper Care of Property: *Do not be careless, negligent, or unsafe in the care, maintenance, or use of Departmental property, vehicles, equipment, or monies.*

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the recommendation for suspension of Police Officer Segus Jolivet for thirty-two (32) hours without pay for violation of the Opelousas Police Department Policy and Procedures Manual: General Order 40 – Vehicle Operations: *reckless operation of a department vehicle.*

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the promotions of the following in the Police Department, effective 02/20/2011:

- a. Terry Miller – Police Sergeant to Police Lieutenant
- b. Carlton Breaux – Police Officer First Class to Police Sergeant

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to accept the resignation of Police Officer Shawn Comeaux, effective 02/13/2011.

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the suspension of Brad Carlin in the Fire Department for thirty (30) calendar days, effective 02/20/2011, and thirty-three (33) calendar days, effective 03/22/2011, for violation of R.S. 33:2500 – (A) The tenure of persons who have been regularly and permanently inducted into positions of the classified service shall be during good behavior. However, the appointing authority may remove any employee from the service, or take such disciplinary action as the circumstances warrant in the manner provided for following reason: (2) The deliberate omission of any act that it was his duty to perform.

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to grant authority to advertise for bids for used water meters.

Presentation by Alderman Julius Alsandor regarding budget cuts. Mr. Kim Fontenot, interim Public Works Director, addressed the Council regarding purchasing uniforms shirts for the Public Works department employees. He stated that currently the City pays for one pair of work boots for the workers which costs about \$100 per pair. He said that the workers want to get a new pair of boots each year which would cost the City nearly \$8,000 to \$10,000 a year and he feels that they need the uniform shirts more. Mr. Fontenot stated that so far they had made \$1,500.00 selling scrap metal. Mayor Cravins instructed him to put the money that he had gotten from selling scrap metal into a special fund (uniforms) to purchase the boots. Mayor Cravins stated that he believes that the City can do both the boots and the uniforms. He stated that they may not have to buy all of the employees' boots right now because some may still be in good shape.

At this time, Alderman Julius Alsandor stated that the 2 ½ percent cuts in the budget should be approved. Alderman Reginald Tatum stated that he did not want to approve this now and then see where they have to do some further cuts. Alderman Alsandor stated that they would just have to come back and revisit the issue. On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles and Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, it was resolved to approve the 2 ½ percent cut as presented by the Department Heads. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Louis Butler, Jr., Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum, and Jacqueline Martin

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

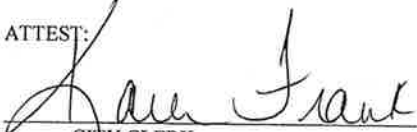
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Mr. Ron Turner requested direction on how to be paid for court costs that were awarded to him. Mayor Cravins stated that he should submit a bill to be paid. Mr. Turner stated that he had already sent this to Ms. Frank. Ms. Frank stated that she had not received it. Mayor Cravins instructed Mr. Turner to give a copy of the bill to either Mr. Wagley or Mrs. Balthazar and it would be taken care of.

Mr. Michael Ahart addressed the Council regarding a claim he submitted for damages received when he hit a pothole on Vine Street. Ms. Frank stated that Vine Street is a State highway and that DOTD pays for those types of claims. Mayor Cravins disagreed and stated that the City is in charge of the maintenance of Vine Street and therefore the City is responsible for the claim. He suggested that the City pay the claim and then be reimbursed by the State. He instructed Mr. Ahart to consult with Mr. Kim Fontenot and Ms. Karen Frank to resolve this issue.

There being nothing further to come before the Council, on a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum, seconded by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR