

**CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

The Council of the City of Opelousas, Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, convened in a regular session on this 14th day of February 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

With Mayor Julius Alsandor presiding, the meeting was called to order.

Mayor Alsandor requested the Clerk to call the roll and the following Council members were PRESENT: Marvin Richard, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, and Chasity Davis-Warren. ABSENT: Milton Batiste III (*arrived late*).

A moment of silent meditation was observed. Pastor Marie Greene, Mount Zion Tabernacle Baptist Church, Opelousas, Louisiana, led the Prayer and Mr. Al Perry Arvie, a 10-year National Guard veteran, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Alderman Marvin Richard and seconded by Alderwoman Chasity Davis-Warren, it was resolved approve the following changes to the agenda:

DELETING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS UNDER THE ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION:

- “Presentation by Ms. Marjorie Randall to discuss implementing a spay/neuter program similar to Jefferson Parish to reduce the number of free-roaming dogs and cats in our community” AND
- “Presentation by Ms. Monet DeBlanc to get information on ways to get dogs to shelter and get a solid working relationship between the city and parish”.

DELETING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- Item No. 26, under the CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES Section, “AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT TO REPURPOSE THE NEW LIFE CENTER PROPERTY, IF ANY”.
- Item No. 29, under the PUBLIC HEARINGS Section, “A PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT TO REPURPOSE THE NEW LIFE CENTER PROPERTY”.
- Item No. 32, under the ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES Section, “ADOPT AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT TO REPURPOSE THE NEW LIFE CENTER PROPERTY”.

ADDING THE FOLLOWING ITEM:

- Item No. 5B, under the CALL TO ORDER Section, “Approve Minutes of a Special Meeting held 01/20/2023.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, and Chasity Davis-Warren.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

On a motion by Alderman Marvin Richard and seconded by Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard, it was resolved to approve the minutes of a Regular Meeting held 01/10/2023 and a Special Meeting held 01/20/2023. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, and Chasity Davis-Warren.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

On a motion by Alderman Charles Cummings and seconded by Alderman Milton Batiste III, it was resolved to adopt the agenda with the approved changes. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, and Chasity Davis-Warren.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COVID-19 Update from Opelousas General Health Systems (OGHS) representative. No OGHS was present so Mayor Alsandor read the update: Current community rate is high but the severity is low with the many variances and flu. Minimal impact on health and hospitals at this time. The flu is present—continue to encourage immunizations and hand hygiene. If feeling sick, stay home and isolate.
- Presentation by Ms. Patrice Melnick, Opelousas Museum & Interpretive Center Director, and Mr. Eric Williams, “Guns-Down-Power-Up” founder, to announce collaboration of upcoming Black History Month events. Mr. Williams was not in attendance. Ms. Melnick provided the following information:
On Saturday February. 25, 2023, the Opelousas Museum & Interpretive Center, in partnership with “Guns-Down-Power-Up”, “The Love Project”, “Bully Box”, “Tnb Church”, “PoetsLife Entertainment”, St. Landry Parish, Opelousas Police Department, and City of Opelousas Parks & Recreation, will host an event in honor of Black History Month. The event is open to the public and is for all ages:
 - Peace Walk from Courthouse to Museum – 11:00 a.m.
 - Poetry Open Mic – 1:00 p.m.
 - The Game of Chess – 2:30 p.m.
 - Refreshments will be provided
- Reading of Public Comments/Questions, if any. None.

REPORTS

**CITY OF OPELOUSAS
GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, February 8, 2023 @ 5:00 P.M.**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherell Roberts, Chairwoman; Marvin Richard, Vice-Chairman; Delita Rubin Broussard and Chasity Davis-Warren. ABSENT: None.

A moment of silent meditation was observed. Pastor Dwight Brown of St. Peter Baptist Church, Port Barre, Louisiana, led the Prayer and Alderman Charles Cummings led the Pledge to the U. S. Flag.

Alderwoman Roberts asked if there were any changes to the agenda. No changes.

Presentation by Mr. Christopher Bihm concerning loose dogs. Mr. Bihm was not present at this time and Chairwoman Roberts asked that this item be moved to the end of the agenda.

Discussion regarding proposed Opelousas Vacant Structures Ordinance. Ms. Lena Charles presented information regarding this ordinance which the Opelousas Downtown Development District (ODDD) had been tasked with drafting. ODDD worked in conjunction with Mr. Purvis Morrison, on behalf of the Mayor, and the City Attorney, as well as with property owners and Code Enforcement. This was part of the Opelousas Master Plan to promote and revitalize the City. This ordinance would allow property owners a year after adoption to bring the properties into compliance. There were several comments from commercial property owners and residents regarding this item. It was recommended that some of the suggestions made by the owners and residents regarding the fees, etc., be taken under advisement. On a recommendation by Alderwoman Chasity Davis-Warren and seconded by Alderman Marvin Richard, it was moved to forward to the full council for a vote. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Sherell Roberts, Marvin Richard, and Chasity Davis-Warren.

NAYS: Delita Rubin-Broussard.

ABSENT: None.

**CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

At this time Chairwoman Roberts stated that in the absence of Mr. Bihm, Mr. Jessie Bellard, Parish President, would speak regarding the presentation concerning loose dogs. *Mr. Bellard stated that he will help the City as much as he can with the stray dog problem once the Parish dog pound is completed.* No action necessary at this time.

GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES (cont'd)

Discussion regarding proposed Mobile Food Vendors Ordinance. *Attorney Travis Broussard discussed the proposed ordinance and possible amendments to the proposed ordinance. He stated that he had researched ordinances from several similarly-sized cities regarding food trucks. The Vendors who were present commented on the ordinance's operating times, the fees, and the size restrictions.* On a recommendation by Alderwoman Chasity Davis-Warren and seconded by Alderman Marvin Richard, it was moved to forward to the full council for approval. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Marvin Richard, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Chasity Davis-Warren, and Sherell Roberts.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discussion regarding amending water account delinquent fees. *Chairwoman Roberts stated that she had received some new information regarding this matter and was not prepared at this time to discuss this item.* On a recommendation by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts, seconded by Alderwoman Chasity Davis-Warren and unanimously carried, it was moved to TABLE this item.

On a motion by Alderwoman Chasity Davis-Warren, seconded by Alderman Marvin Richard and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn. The General Services Committee Meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

**CITY OF OPELOUSAS
BUDGET COMMITTEE MINUTES
Thursday, February 9, 2023 @ 5:00 P.M.**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Cummings, Chairman; Sherell Roberts, Vice-Chairwoman; Milton Batiste III and Delita Rubin-Broussard. ABSENT: None.

A moment of silent meditation was observed. Mr. Stephen Woods, led the Prayer and Alderwoman Sherell Roberts led the Pledge to the U. S. Flag.

Alderman Cummings asked if there were any changes to the agenda. The following changes were requested:

Item No. 1b. Discussion regarding Juvenile Detention Fund.

Item No. 2b. Presentation regarding Enterprise Fleet.

Item No. 4. Discussion of the \$400,000 proposed for the North Park.

On a motion by Alderman Charles Cummings and seconded by Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard, it was resolved to accept the agenda with the requested changes. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Milton Batiste III, and Delita Rubin-Broussard.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discuss Judge Shaun Caillier-Harden's request for hiring a part-time employee for City Court. *Judge Caillier requested that she be allowed to hire a part-time employee to work in the Civil Department for 4 days a week, 7 hours a day at \$14.00 per hour for an annual salary of \$20,384.00 with no benefits.* On a recommendation by Alderman Cummings and seconded by Alderman Milton Batiste III, it was moved to forward the request to the full council for approval. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Sherell Roberts, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, and Charles Cummings.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discussion regarding Juvenile Detention Fund. Judge Caillier requested a line item allocation of \$20,000.00 for the Juvenile Detention Center expenses and also that the \$20,384.00 be allocated in Salaries for the part-time employee in City Court. On a recommendation by Alderman Charles Cummings and seconded by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts, it was moved to forward the request to the full council for approval. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, and Sherell Roberts.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discuss Police Chief Graig LeBlanc's proposal for a pay increase for starting officers. *Police Chief LeBlanc stated that he was requesting an increase in starting pay for entry level Police Officers from \$13.00 per hour to \$15.00 per hour, Records Clerks from \$7.60 per hour to \$9.60 per hour, and Communications Officers from \$9.00 per hour to \$11.00 per hour.* On a recommendation by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts and seconded by Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard, it was moved to forward the request to the full council for approval. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, and Milton Batiste III.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Presentation regarding Enterprise Fleet. Police Chief LeBlanc stated that he is requesting starting a new lease for additional police vehicles with Enterprise Fleet Management. The police department currently has an active lease with Enterprise Fleet and they would like to add more vehicles to their fleet. On a recommendation by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts and seconded by Alderman Milton Batiste III, it was moved to forward to the full council to take the matter under advisement. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Milton Batiste III, and Delita Rubin-Broussard.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discuss Interim Fire Chief Richard Joseph's request for possible pay increases for his employees. *Interim Fire Chief Joseph stated that he is requesting an increase in pay for the firefighters from \$9.50 per hour to \$12.50 per hour.* On a recommendation by Alderman Milton Batiste III and seconded by Alderman Charles Cummings, it was moved to forward to the full council for further discussion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Sherell Roberts, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, and Charles Cummings.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discussion of the \$400,000 proposed for the North Park. Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard stated that she had made a public records request this week requesting information on the plan for the North Park improvements and where was the money that was supposed to be used for this project. She stated that she would like the Mayor to answer this but he was not in attendance. On a recommendation by Alderwoman Delita Rubin Broussard and seconded by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts, it was moved to forward to the full council for further discussion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, and Sherell Roberts.

On a motion by Alderman Milton Batiste III, seconded by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn. The Budget Committee Meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

On a motion by Alderman Charles Cummings and seconded by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts, it was resolved to accept the minutes of the General Services Committee and Budget Committee meetings as presented. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, and Marvin Richard.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Review Monthly Finances. Mr. Stephen Woods gave a financial update for the period covering January 2023. On a motion by Alderman Milton Batiste III and seconded by Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard, it was resolved to accept the Financial Report for the period of January 2023. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, and Milton Batiste III.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Engineer's Monthly Status Report. A copy of the Engineer's Monthly Status Report was provided to the Council members.

WATER AND SEWER EXTENSIONS (BOAGNI PROPERTY - CHIC.FIL-A) (BLDG#310): Construction has commenced and is approximately 80% complete. Anticipate construction to be completed by early February and testing initiated, with substantial completion by end of February. Estimated cost is \$250,000.00 and is being paid by the Opelousas Downtown Development District.

Mr. Jarrell will meet with the General Services Committee next month to discuss infrastructure issues.

On a motion by Alderman Charles Cummings and seconded by Alderwoman Chasity Davis-Warren, it was resolved to accept the Engineers Report as presented.

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, and Delita Rubin-Broussard.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Presentation by City Attorney. Attorney Travis Broussard stated that he had no report this month.

OLD BUSINESS

No Items Submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss Chasity Davis' request for VARIANCE approval in an R1 ZONE (RESIDENTIAL 1 ZONE) to open and operate a small restaurant at 528 Park Avenue. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on 02/13/2023 and recommended **approval** of this item. On a motion by Alderman Charles Cummings and seconded by Alderman Marvin Richard, it was resolved to approve Chasity Davis' request for VARIANCE approval in an R1 ZONE (RESIDENTIAL 1 ZONE) to open and operate a small restaurant at 528 Park Avenue. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Sherell Roberts, Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, and Charles Cummings.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINED: Chasity Davis-Warren

ABSENT: None.

Discuss Crowne Business Parc LLC – Rayne Plastic Signs' request for VARIANCE approval in a C1 ZONE (COMMERCIAL 1 ZONE) to install a 35'6" pylon sign at the development entrance at I-49 S. Service Road. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on 02/13/2023 and recommended **approval** of this item. On a motion by Alderman Marvin Richard and seconded by Alderman Charles Cummings, it was resolved to approve Crowne Business Parc LLC – Rayne Plastic Signs' request for VARIANCE approval in a C1 ZONE (COMMERCIAL 1 ZONE) to install a 35'6" pylon sign at the development entrance at I-49 S. Service Road. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, and Sherell Roberts.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discuss Sterling Jeep – AAA Signs LLC's request for VARIANCE approval in a C1 ZONE (COMMERCIAL 1 ZONE) to install a 30 foot pylon sign at 5488 I-49 N. Service Road. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on 02/13/2023 and recommended **approval** of this item. On a motion by Alderwoman Chasity Davis-Warren and seconded by Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard, it was resolved to approve Sterling Jeep – AAA Signs LLC's request for VARIANCE approval in a C1 ZONE (COMMERCIAL 1 ZONE) to install a 30 foot pylon sign at 5488 I-49 N. Service Road. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, and Chasity Davis-Warren.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discuss Breaker Anointing International Ministry's request for CONDITIONAL USE approval in a DMU ZONE (DOWNTOWN MIXED USE ZONE) to operate a ministry at 405 N. Main Street. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on 02/13/2023 and recommended **approval** of this item. On a motion by Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard and seconded by Alderman Milton Batiste III, it was resolved to approve Breaker Anointing International Ministry's request for CONDITIONAL USE approval in a DMU ZONE (DOWNTOWN MIXED USE ZONE) to operate a ministry at 405 N. Main Street. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, and Marvin Richard.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discuss Bailey K. Jones ETALS – Veterans Point's request for VARIANCE approval in an R1 ZONE (RESIDENTIAL 1 ZONE) to operate a Rooming House/Dormitory at 221 W. Bertheaud Avenue. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on 02/13/2023 and recommended **approval** of this item. On a motion by Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard and seconded by Alderman Marvin Richard, it was resolved to approve Bailey K. Jones ETALS – Veterans Point's request for VARIANCE approval in an R1 ZONE (RESIDENTIAL 1 ZONE) to operate a Rooming House/Dormitory at 221 W. Bertheaud Avenue. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, and Milton Batiste III.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discuss James Ben Adams – Xclusive Event Center's request for CONDITIONAL USE approval in a C1 ZONE (COMMERCIAL 1 ZONE) to sell alcoholic beverages at the event center at 5620 I-49 N. Service Road. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on 02/13/2023 and recommended **approval** of this item. On a motion by Alderman Charles Cummings and seconded by Alderman Marvin Richard, it was resolved to approve James Ben Adams – Xclusive Event Center's request for CONDITIONAL USE approval in a C1 ZONE (COMMERCIAL 1 ZONE) to sell alcoholic beverages at the event center at 5620 I-49 N. Service Road. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, and Delita Rubin-Broussard.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discuss Lafayette Shooters' request for SITE PLAN approval in a C1 ZONE (COMMERCIAL 1 ZONE) to construct a new retail sporting goods store at I-49 N. Service Road @ Town Boulevard. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on 02/13/2023 and recommended **approval** of this item. On a motion by Alderman Marvin Richard and seconded by Alderman Charles Cummings, it was resolved to approve Lafayette Shooters' request for SITE PLAN approval in a C1 ZONE (COMMERCIAL 1 ZONE) to construct a new retail sporting goods store at I-49 N. Service Road @ Town Boulevard. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, and Charles Cummings.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

On a motion by Alderman Milton Batiste III and seconded by Alderwoman Chasity Davis-Warren, it was resolved to approve Judge Shaunn Caillier-Harden's request to increase City Court's Budget as follows: \$20,384 to hire a part-time civil department employee and \$20,000 for the Detention center.

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, and Sherell Roberts.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

On a motion by Alderman Charles Cummings and seconded by Alderwomen Chasity Davis-Warren and Delita Rubin-Broussard, it was resolved to approve Police Chief Graig LeBlanc's request to increase the starting pay for entry level officers, records clerks, and communications officers by \$2.00 per hour along with a proposed change to the current pay plan. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, and Chasity Davis-Warren.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

On a motion by Alderman Charles Cummings and seconded by Alderwoman Chasity Davis-Warren, it was resolved to **table** Police Chief Graig LeBlanc's request to lease additional vehicles for the police department and discuss at the next Budget Committee Meeting. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, and Marvin Richard.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

On a motion by Alderman Charles Cummings and seconded by Alderwomen Sherell Roberts and Chasity Davis-Warren, it was resolved to **table** Interim Fire Chief Richard Joseph's request for pay increases for his employees and discuss at the next Budget Committee Meeting. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, and Milton Batiste III.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Discuss Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard's request for information regarding the \$400,000 proposed for North City Park Improvements. Mayor Alsandor stated that he will provide the requested information directly to Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard. No action needed at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

No Items Submitted.

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED ORDINANCE REGULATING MOBILE FOOD VENDORS:

- Amend Section 3-2, "Permit Application Fee" to reduce the proposed fee from \$300.00 to \$200.00.
- Amend Section 4-1, "Hours of Operation" to delete Section 4.1 in its entirety.
- Amend Section 4-5, "Size Restrictions" to change the proposed length from twenty-seven (27) feet to thirty-two (32) feet.

On a motion by Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard and seconded by Alderman Charles Cummings, it was resolved to approve the proposed amendments to the proposed ordinance regulating mobile food vendors as presented. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, and Delita Rubin-Broussard.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED ORDINANCE REGULATING NON-RESIDENTIAL VACANT STRUCTURES IN THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS:

- Amend Section 5-173, "Effective Date" to change the proposed effective date of the Ordinance from September 1, 2023 to February 14, 2024.

On a motion by Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard and seconded by Alderwoman Chasity Davis-Warren, it was resolved to approve the proposed amendment to the proposed ordinance regulating non-residential vacant structures in the City of Opelousas as presented. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, and Charles Cummings.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Pursuant to an advertisement in the *Daily World*, a Public Hearing was opened at 6:44 p.m. TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE REGULATING MOBILE FOOD VENDORS. Mr. Floyd Dominick and Mr. Paul Scott spoke regarding this matter. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:47 p.m.

Pursuant to an advertisement in the *Daily World*, a Public Hearing was opened at 6:48 p.m. TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE REGULATING NON-RESIDENTIAL VACANT STRUCTURES IN THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS. The following citizens spoke regarding this matter: Cody Lanclos, Freddie Fandol, Ivan Bourgogne, Marvin Richard, Delita Broussard, Lena Charles, Beth James, and Carola Hartley. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:12 p.m.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES (VOTE REQUIRED)

ADOPT AN ORDINANCE REGULATING MOBILE FOOD VENDORS with the approved amendments.

ORDINANCE NO. 01 OF 2023

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING MOBILE FOOD VENDORS

This Ordinance was introduced by Council Member Sherell Roberts at a public meeting on December 13, 2022. A public hearing was lawfully advertised and held on January 10, 2023 and February 14, 2023. Thereafter, on Motion of Councilmember Delita Rubin-Broussard and Second by Councilmember Sherell Roberts, it was offered for final adoption, and the following vote was recorded:

Yay: Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, and Sherell Roberts.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the city council of the City of Opelousas, that the following provisions applicable to Mobile Food Vendors are hereby imposed in the City of Opelousas:

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023

CHAPTER 6
MOBILE FOOD VENDORS

Section 1. Purpose and Intent.

The City of Opelousas desires to regulate Mobile Food Vendors throughout the City to provide for the health and safety of its citizens. This Ordinance shall apply to all Mobile Food Vendors in the City of Opelousas, and it shall be effective upon signature by the Mayor.

Section 2. Definitions.

“City” means the corporate limits of the City of Opelousas.

“Mobile Food Establishment” means a food service establishment that is vehicle-mounted or wheeled and is capable of being readily movable, and is commonly referred to as a Mobile Food Truck or Trailer.

“Mobile Food Vendor” means anyone who operates a Mobile Food Establishment.

“Special events” means organized special events or activities sponsored by government organizations, or large events substantially supported by local government and police and/or fire personnel, including but not limited to, the Holy Ghost Creole Festival and other events as determined by the City Council.

Section 3. Permits.

Section 3-1. Application.

(A) All Mobile Food Vendors who desire to operate a Mobile Food Establishment in the City shall apply for a Permit annually.

(B) The following shall accompany each application for a Permit:

1. A principal address at which the Mobile Food Vendor may receive mail related to the operation of the Mobile Food Establishment;
2. Documentary evidence of the applicant’s registration with the St. Landry Parish School Board Sales Tax Division;
3. Proof of Good Standing with the Louisiana Secretary of State for all corporations and unincorporated associations, including but not limited to limited liability companies;
4. Proof of Commercial General Liability Insurance Coverage with coverage in an amount not less than \$200,000.00;
5. Proof of current registration of the Mobile Food Establishment with the Louisiana Department of Motor Vehicles;
6. Proof of permit to operate received from the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals;
7. Social Security or Tax Identification Number for the Applicant;
8. Proof of the dimensions of the Mobile Food Establishment; and
9. Proof of ownership or lease of the property at which the Mobile Food Establishment will be operated.

Section 3-2. Permit Application Fee.

A fee of \$200.00 shall be paid prior to acceptance of any applications for a Permit.

Section 3-3. Duration of Permit.

Permits shall be valid from the date of issuance until December 31 of the calendar year in which the Permit has been issued unless terminated sooner by the City for good cause.

Section 3-4. Failure to Renew a Permit.

If a Mobile Food Vendor fails to apply for a Permit within thirty (30) days of expiration of any validly issued Permit, a fee of \$100.00 shall be paid in addition to the permit application fee required by Section 3-2.

Section 3-5. Display of Permit.

All Permits issued pursuant to this Ordinance shall be prominently displayed in a conspicuous place at the Mobile Food Establishment and shall remain so displayed for so long as the Mobile Food Vendor operates the Mobile Food Establishment. The Permit shall be produced and handed over immediately upon request of a law enforcement officer or employee of the Code Enforcement Department of the City.

Section 3-6. Permit Invalidity.

Permits issued pursuant to this Ordinance shall not be valid during the time and location of any special events.

Section 4. Restrictions on Operation.

Section 4-1. Historic District.

(A) If operating within the Historic District, Mobile Food Establishments must be moved daily.

(B) Prior to operating in the Historic District, all Mobile Food Establishments shall apply for and obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Section 4-2. Alcoholic Beverages Prohibited.

The sale of alcoholic beverages at Mobile Food Establishments is prohibited.

Section 4-3. Sale of Goods Other than Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages Prohibited.

The sale of any goods other than food and non-alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

Section 4-4. Size Restrictions.

No Mobile Food Establishment shall exceed thirty-two (32) feet in length and eight (8) feet in width.

Section 4-5. Operation on Property Owned or Leased.

(A) Mobile Food Establishments shall be operated on property owned or leased by the Mobile Food Vendor.

(B) All Mobile food Establishments shall comply with applicable zoning regulations established by City of Opelousas.

Section 4-6. Observance of Federal, State and Local Laws.

Mobile Food Vendors shall observe all federal, state and local laws when operating the Mobile Food Establishment. Under no circumstances shall any Mobile Food Establishment obstruct any public or private sidewalk or street.

No item related to operation of the Mobile Food Establishment shall be placed on any street, sidewalk, public place, or anywhere other than in or on the Mobile Food Establishment.

Section 5. Violations.

Section 5.1. Civil Fines and Penalties.

Any person found to have violated any provision of this Article shall be subject to a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each offense. In the event a Mobile Food Establishment is given written notice regarding any violation of this Ordinance, each day that the Violation(s) continue, after the time for compliance, if any, has expired, shall be deemed a separate offense.

Section 5.2. Lien and Privilege

City of Opelousas shall have a lien and privilege against the immovable property in, on, or upon which Violation(s) have occurred. The lien and privilege shall secure all fines, fees, costs, and penalties that are assessed by the Code Enforcement Department.

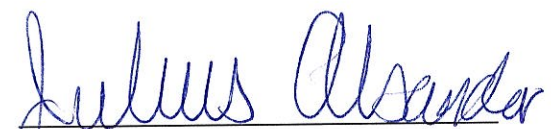
Section 6. Severability.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Article is, for any reason, held unconstitutional or invalid, such decision or holding will not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof. It being the intent of the City Council to enact each section and portion thereof, individually and each such section will stand alone, if necessary, and be in force not with the validity of any other division, section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of these regulations.

Opelousas, Louisiana this 14th day of February, 2023.

ATTEST:


LEISA ANDERSON, CITY CLERK


JULIUS ALSANDOR, MAYOR

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023

ADOPT AN ORDINANCE REGULATING NON-RESIDENTIAL VACANT STRUCTURES IN THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS with the approved amendment.

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING NON-RESIDENTIAL VACANT STRUCTURES IN THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS

This Ordinance was introduced at a public meeting on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, by council member Delita Rubin-Broussard. Notice of a public hearing was properly advertised, and a public hearing was held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023. Thereafter, on motion of councilmember Delita Rubin-Broussard and second by councilmember Milton Batiste III, this Ordinance was offered for final adoption, and following vote was recorded:

Yay: Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, and Sherell Roberts

Nay: Marvin Richard, Charles Cummings, and Chasity Davis-Warren.

Absent: None.

THE VOTE WAS TIED THEREFORE THE MOTION FAILS AND THE ORDINANCE REGULATING NON-RESIDENTIAL VACANT STRUCTURES IN THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS WAS NOT ADOPTED.

CHAPTER 5

BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS

ARTICLE VIII. VACANT STRUCTURES

Sec. 5-162. Purpose and Intent.

The purpose of this Article is to implement components of the Opelousas Downtown Development District Master Plan, adopted by the City in 2021 by promoting the revitalization of downtown Opelousas; encouraging the reuse of downtown's building stock; improving the conditions of vacant buildings in downtown to promote public health, safety, and welfare; and supporting economic development in downtown by returning vacant buildings into commerce to create a more vibrant and active downtown.

Sec. 5-163. Definitions.

The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

- (1) "Department" means the Code Enforcement Department of the City of Opelousas, Louisiana.
- (2) "Director" refers to the Director of the Code Enforcement Department of the City of Opelousas, Louisiana.
- (3) The "District" means the Opelousas Downtown Development District as defined in RS 33:2740.39(A).
- (4) "Lawful activity" means any legal or legally non-conforming use as defined in City of Opelousas Zoning Ordinance.
- (5) "Owner" or "property owner" means any person, agent, firm, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, or other entity having a legal interest in the property.
- (6) "Secured", "secure", and "securing" shall have the same meanings and be subject to the same standards as set out in [Sec. 5-167. Standard of care for vacant properties.], unless expressly provided otherwise in this Article.
- (7) "Structure" means a combination of materials forming an edifice or building of any kind, or any piece of work artificially built up or comprised of parts joined together in some definite manner, but excluding the following: retaining walls; fences not over six feet high; platforms or decks not more than thirty inches above grade and not over any basement or story below; utility mains, lines, and underground facilities; and yard and play equipment. Structure does not include vehicles, recreational vehicles or campers.
- (8) "Vacant structure" means that all active lawful commercial or residential activity has ceased, or reasonably appears to have ceased for a continuous period of [one hundred and eighty (180) days]. Storage or "warehousing" is not considered an active lawful commercial activity.
- (9) "Violator(s)" means person(s), natural or juridical, who have been found liable for a Violation and/or ordered to correct a Violation in a written decision by the Planning and Zoning Commission as directed by this Article VIII.

Sec. 5-164. Applicability and administration.

- (a) Applicability.
 - (i) Unless otherwise provided, this Article shall apply to all vacant structures, as defined herein, which exist as of the effective date of this Article or which may hereafter be constructed or converted from other uses, and which are located within the boundaries of the District, as shown in Exhibit A.
 - (ii) This Article does not apply to single family or other residential Structures.
 - (iii) This Article does not apply to the State of Louisiana or any political subdivision of the State of Louisiana.
- (b) Authority of the Director. The Director is authorized to administer and enforce the provisions of this Article.
 - (i) The Director shall have the authority to render interpretations of this Article and to adopt policies and procedures in order to clarify the application of its provisions and ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of its implementation.
 - (ii) The Director may also enter into an agreement with a registered property owner to obtain compliance with this Article by a date certain in lieu of the deadlines otherwise provided by this Article.

Sec. 5-165. Registration process and requirements.

- (a) Notification to property owners. The Director, or designee, shall provide written notice to the property owner of a vacant structure by means of personal service, or by certified mail to their last known address according to the records of the St. Landry Parish Assessor's Office, and by posting on the property.
- (b) Registration by property owner required.
 - (i) The property owner of any vacant structure shall register each vacant structure with the Department within [ninety (90) days] from the date that written notice is issued to the property owner.
 - (ii) Registration shall include the following information:
 - (1) All required registration and inspection fees, unless otherwise waived in accordance with Sec. 5-170. Fee Waivers.
 - (2) The address and legal description of the property;
 - (3) The current name, physical address, mailing address, telephone number, and email information for every owner with an ownership interest in the property. Entities shall submit the same information pertaining to their registered agent, or other legal representations.
 - (4) The contact information for a local manager of the property.
 - (5) Proof of public liability insurance, in an amount no less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) and covering the property.
 - (6) Complete the comprehensive plan of action form provided by the Department, detailing a timeline for correcting violations, rehabilitation, maintenance while vacant, and future use of the structure. The plan of action must be updated every six (6) months.
 - (7) A complete floor plan of the property for use by first responders in the event of a fire or other catastrophic event, except state or local fire employees authorized to act for their office may waive any or all of this requirement based on their existing information and needs.
 - (iii) Vacant structure property owners shall provide written notice to the Director, including providing a copy of any new deed, of any change in:
 - (1) Ownership of the property;
 - (2) Contact information for either the owner or the designated manager identified in paragraph 3 above.
 - (3) Written notice must be provided to the Department no later than thirty (30) days after such changes have occurred.
- (c) The Director may consider evidence provided to him/her that the property is listed and marketed for sale or lease for purposes of extending the length of time before the property must be registered.
 - (i) The property owner must provide comparable rental rates and days on market for comparable local properties as proof that the vacant property is being offered at a fair market value and has been on the market for a reasonable length.
 - (ii) The property owner must also provide proof that the vacant property is being actively marketed.
- (d) Proper registration shall be valid for a period of six (6) months. The property owner must register the property every six (6) months until the Director determines that the structure is occupied and in compliance with this Article.

Sec. 5-166. Property manager or agent.

- (a) Vacant structure property owners must designate a local property manager for each property and include the relevant contact information for the designated manager upon registering the property with the Department. Property managers shall act as agents for the property owner for purposes of accepting legal service, however the designation of a property manager does not limit the responsibilities of the property owner under the provisions of this Article.
- (b) The property manager or agent must be available at the number listed at all times in the event of an emergency or catastrophe.
- (c) The name and telephone number of the property manager or agent must be posted at the front of the vacant structure, in large, legible print as directed by the Director.
- (d) The name and telephone number of the property manager or agent must be provided to the Director, and to the [Opelousas Fire Department and Opelousas Police Department].
- (e) Property manager contact information required in this section must be kept current as outlined in Sec. 5-165(b)(iii).

Sec. 5-167. Standard of care for vacant property.

- (a) The standard of care for vacant properties shall be subject to approval by the Director, and shall include, but is not limited to:

**CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

- (i) Applicable historic district regulations. Historic properties and properties within designated historic districts are additionally subject to all applicable rules and regulations provided in Chapter 5 Article V Historic Buildings. Where there is a conflict with this Article and Article V, Article V shall control.
- (ii) Protective treatment: All exterior surfaces, including, but not limited to, doors, door and window frames, cornices, porches, trim, balconies, decks and fences, shall be maintained in good condition, weather tight and in such condition so as to prevent the entry of rodents and other pests. All exposed wood or metal surfaces subject to rust or corrosion, other than decay resistant woods or surfaces designed for stabilization by oxidation shall be protected from the elements and against decay or rust by periodic application of weather coating materials such as paint, sealant or similar surface treatment. All surfaces with rust or corrosion shall be stabilized and coated to inhibit future rust and corrosion. Oxidation stains shall be removed from exterior surfaces. All siding, cladding and masonry joints, as well as those between the building envelope and the perimeter of windows, doors and skylights, shall be maintained weather-resistant and water-tight.
- (iii) Premises identification: The property shall have address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Numbers shall be a minimum of four (4) inches/one hundred two (102) mm high.
- (iv) Structure: All structural members and foundation shall be maintained free from deterioration and shall be capable of safely supporting the imposed loads.
- (v) Exterior walls: All exterior walls shall be kept in good condition and shall be free from holes, breaks, and loose or rotting materials. Exterior walls shall be maintained weatherproof and properly surface coated where necessary to prevent deterioration.
- (vi) Roof and drainage: The roof and flashing shall be sound, tight and not have defects that admit rain. Roof drainage shall be adequate to prevent accumulation, dampness or deterioration. Roof drains, gutters and downspouts shall be maintained in good repair, free from obstructions and operational, and shall properly direct rainwater towards storm drains, and prevent ponding of water next to foundation for an extended period of time.
- (vii) Decorative features: All cornices, belt courses, corbels, applications, wall facings and similar decorative features shall be maintained in good repair with proper anchorage and in a safe condition.
- (viii) Overhang extensions and awnings: All overhang extensions including, but not limited to, canopies, marquees, signs, awnings, and fire escapes shall be maintained in good repair and be properly anchored and supported as to be kept in a sound and safe condition.
- (ix) Stairways, decks, porches and balconies: Every exterior stairway, deck, porch and balcony, and all appurtenances attached thereto, shall be maintained structurally sound, in good repair, with proper anchorage and capable of supporting the imposed loads
- (x) Chimneys and towers: All chimneys, cooling towers, smoke stacks and similar appurtenances shall be maintained structurally safe and sound, and in good repair.
- (xi) Handrails and guards: Every exterior handrail and guard shall be firmly fastened and capable of supporting normally imposed loads and shall be maintained in good condition.
- (xii) Window, skylight and door: Every window, storefront, skylight transom, and exterior door part, including, but not limited to, the frame, the trim, window screens and hardware shall be kept in sound condition and good repair. All broken or missing windows shall be replaced with glass and secured in a manner so as to prevent unauthorized entry. All broken or missing doors shall be replaced with new doors which shall be secured to prevent unauthorized entry. All glass shall be maintained in sound condition and good repair. All exterior doors, door assemblies and hardware shall be maintained in good condition and secured. Locks at all exterior doors, exterior attic access, windows, or exterior hatchways shall tightly secure the opening. Windows and doors shall not be secured by plywood or other similar means mounted on the exterior except as a temporary securing measure, not to exceed a period of three (3) months, or period of time designated by the Director and compliant with standards established by the Director.
- (xiii) Basement hatchways and windows: Every basement hatchway shall be maintained to prevent the entrance of rodents, birds, rain and surface drainage water. Every basement window that is openable shall be supplied with rodent shields, storm windows or other approved protection against entry of rodents.
- (b) All repairs shall be subject to approval by [the Director, or designee, and Fire Marshall if applicable]. All required permits and final inspections prior to and/or following repairs shall be in accordance with applicable laws and ordinances.
- (c) Failure to maintain the vacant structure to the standards of care required by this Article shall be a violation and subject to the provisions of [Sec. 5-171. Jurisdiction, Enforcement and Penalties].

Sec. 5-168 Inspections.

The Department shall inspect any premises in the District for the purpose of enforcing or assuring compliance with the provisions of this Article, within 30 days registration. Upon request by the Director, or their designee, a property owner must provide access to all interior and exterior portions of the vacant structure in order to permit a complete inspection. The Director may designate third party inspectors to conduct inspections.

Sec. 5-169. Registration and inspection fees.

- (a) Vacant structure property owners shall tender a registration fee at each six (6) months registration.
- (b) The registration fee at the time of the first registration shall be seven-hundred and fifty dollars (\$750.00) plus an inspection fee of \$0.01 per square foot of floor area. Floor area is defined by the City of Opelousas Zoning Ordinance.
- (c) If re-inspection is required to determine that a violation has been remedied, the City may charge an additional inspection fee.
- (d) The registration fee for each subsequent registration shall increase by fifty percent (50%) of the registration fee paid during the previous period, with a maximum registration fee of five-thousand sixty-two dollars and fifty cents (\$5,065.50). The inspection fee shall remain unchanged.
- (e) All registration fees shall be used solely to offset the costs of this program, or to improve or promote the areas affected by these provisions in ways designed to improve the ability of property owners to sell, lease or develop the properties which are subject to this program.

Sec. 5-170. Fee waivers.

Property owners may seek a waiver to the fees outlined in Sec. 5-169. All fee waivers must be applied for, using the forms provided by the Department. Fee waivers may be issued as outlined below:

- (1) Property which has been devastated by a catastrophe such as fire, flood, or force majeure significantly damaging in excess of fifty percent (50%) of the structure:
 - (a) The owner has thirty (30) days to register from the date of the disaster but shall be exempt from the fees.
 - (b) This fee waiver is effective for later of the following dates:
 - (i) One year from the date of the catastrophe;
 - (ii) One year from the date that a state of emergency is lifted from the property; or
 - (iii) The earliest date that the property can reasonably be accessed by following a disaster that prevents access.
 - (iv) Thereafter all applicable fees are due.
- (2) A property owner who is indigent must register and is otherwise subject to this Article but shall be exempt from the fees. In order to establish the property owner is indigent, a property owner must provide all financial information requested by the Director, including income tax returns and a list of all properties owned. The fee waiver must be applied for on an annual basis.
- (3) Representatives of a property owner who is deceased or is no longer legally competent must register the property and are otherwise subject to this Article but shall be exempt from the registration fees for a period of six (6) months.
- (4) Where the owner of the property has obtained a building permit and is progressing in an expedient manner to prepare the premises for occupancy, the owner must register the property and is otherwise subject to this Article but shall be exempt from the registration fees. For a period of 6 months. This fee waiver may be renewed in 6 month increments up to the anticipated period of construction approved by the Director.

Sec. 5-171. Jurisdiction, enforcement and penalties.

- (a) Whenever the Director determines that a Violation exists, a notice of violation(s) shall be provided to the alleged Violator(s). A notice of violation shall:
 - (i) Be in writing;
 - (ii) Be mailed via certified mail to the address on file with the St. Landry Parish Assessor's office;
 - (iii) Be posted at the subject property;
 - (iv) Provide the municipal address of the cited property;
 - (v) Provide the date of the inspection, if any;
 - (vi) Provide a description of the alleged Violation;
 - (vii) Provide the mailing address and telephone number of the Department;
 - (viii) Provide the time, date, and location of the administrative hearing whereby the alleged Violation(s) shall be adjudicated;
 - (ix) Provide notice that the failure to appear at the hearing shall be considered an admission of liability for the alleged Violation(s);
 - (x) Provide the risk of fees, penalties, costs, and liens that may be imposed for continued Violation; and
 - (xi) Provide the remedial measures that may be ordered to correct or abate the Violation(s).
- (b) Administrative Hearing and Appeal.

(1) When the Director determines that any property is in violation of this Article VIII, the Director shall accord the registered property owner an opportunity to be heard at an Administrative Hearing conducted by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Planning and Zoning Commission shall have jurisdiction to adjudicate any Violation(s) alleged by the Director. All decisions of the Planning and Zoning Commission shall be reduced to writing and mailed to the property owner via certified mail.

**CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

(2) Prior to holding an administrative hearing pursuant to this Section, the alleged violator(s) shall be notified at least 15 days (inclusive of legal holidays) in advance of the date that such a hearing is scheduled. The date of the postmark shall be deemed to be the date of delivery. Any notification so sent and returned by U.S. Post Office shall be considered as having fulfilled the notification requirement. Any person charged with Violation(s) may present any relevant evidence and testimony at such hearing and may be represented.

(3) Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Planning and Zoning Commission shall have a right to appeal such decision to the district court within thirty (30) calendar days of the date the Planning and Zoning Commission mailed written notice of the decision.

- (c) Failure to register with the Department after written notice to the vacant structure property owner, as is hereinafter specified, is a violation of this Article.
- (d) Any person found to have violated any provision of this Article shall be subject to a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each offense. After due notice of the written decision by the Planning and Zoning Commission, each day that the Violation(s) continue, after the time for compliance, if any, has expired, shall be deemed a separate offense.
- (e) City of Opelousas shall have a lien and privilege against the immovable property in, on, or upon which Violation(s) have occurred. The lien and privilege shall secure all fines, fees, costs, and penalties that are assessed by the Planning and Zoning Commission after an administrative hearing. The recordation of the lien and privilege or notice of judgment by the Planning and Zoning Commission shall constitute a lien and privilege against the land upon which the Violation(s) exists. Any lien and privilege recorded against an immovable property under this Section shall be included in the next annual ad valorem tax bill.

Sec. 5-172. Severability.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Article is, for any reason, held unconstitutional or invalid, such decision or holding will not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof. It being the intent of the City Council to enact each section and portion thereof, individually and each such section will stand alone, if necessary, and be in force not with the validity of any other division, section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of these regulations.

Sec. 5-173. Effective Date.

This Article shall be effective beginning February 14, 2024.

THE VOTE WAS TIED THEREFORE THE MOTION FAILS AND THE ORDINANCE REGULATING NON-RESIDENTIAL VACANT STRUCTURES IN THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS WAS NOT ADOPTED.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolution was offered by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts and seconded by Alderman Charles Cummings:

RESOLUTION NO. 02 OF 2023

A RESOLUTION GRANTING THE AUTHORITY TO THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS FOR STATE PROJECT NO. H.011844, CONTROL SECTION NO. 012-12, FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H.011844, U.S. 190: MARKET - COURT, SIDEWALKS NHS ROUTE, ROUTE: U.S. 190, PARISH OF ST. LANDRY

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Opelousas formally approves the authorization for the above-stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute all necessary documents on behalf of this project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute all necessary documents on behalf of the City of Opelousas for the above-stated project.

The above Resolution, having been submitted to a vote, was adopted on this 14th day of February 2023 as follows:

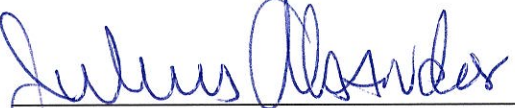
YEAS: Milton Batiste III, Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, and Marvin Richard.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR

The following Resolution was offered by Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard and seconded by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts:

RESOLUTION NO: 03 OF 2023

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR FY 2023 BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA) GRANT OF THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS (OJP), U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$150,000.00) ON BEHALF OF THE OPELOUSAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Grants are used to assist with the overtime pay; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to authorize the Mayor to apply for said Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS, PARISH OF ST. LANDRY AND STATE OF LOUISIANA:

Section 1. That the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized and directed to apply for the FY 2023 BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA) GRANT FY 2023 to help defray the cost for equipment for OVERTIME RATE and TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT for the Opelousas Police Department.

Section 2. That Council does hereby further accept said Grant on behalf of the City of Opelousas should it be awarded to the Opelousas Police Department.

Section 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to this legislation were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 4. That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

The above Resolution, having been submitted to a vote, was adopted on this 14th day of February 2023 as follows:

YEAS: Delita Rubin-Broussard, Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, and Milton Batiste III.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS TO ADOPT THE 2022 ST. LANDRY PARISH MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

The following Resolution was offered for adoption by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts and seconded by Alderwomen Chasity Davis-Warren and Delita Rubin-Broussard:

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
LOUISIANA

RESOLUTION NO. 04 OF 2023

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS TO ADOPT THE
2022 ST. LANDRY PARISH MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the CITY OF OPELOUSAS BOARD OF ALDERMEN recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA; and

WHEREAS, the CITY OF OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as the 2022 ST. LANDRY PARISH MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023

WHEREAS, the 2022 ST. LANDRY PARISH MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and WHEREAS, adoption by the CITY OF OPELOUSAS BOARD OF ALDERMEN demonstrates their commitment to the hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the 2022 ST. LANDRY PARISH MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA, THAT:

Section 1. In accordance with (La. R.S. 33:406(A)(2)), THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS adopts the 2022 ST. LANDRY PARISH MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

The above Resolution, having been submitted to a vote, was adopted on this 14th day of February 2023 as follows:

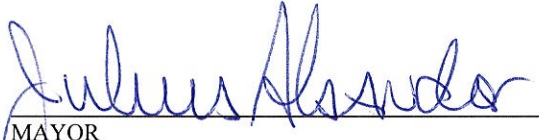
YEAS: Charles Cummings, Sherell Roberts, Chasity Davis-Warren, Marvin Richard, Milton Batiste III, and Delita Rubin-Broussard.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR

CONSENT AGENDA (PERSONNEL)

On a motion by Alderwoman Sherell Roberts, seconded by Alderwoman Delita Rubin-Broussard and unanimously carried, it was resolved to accept Probational Police Officer Dillen A. DeJean's resignation, effective 01/21/2023.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- *No Items Submitted.*

There being nothing further to come before the Council, on a motion by Alderwomen Chasity Davis-Warren and Sherell Roberts, seconded by Alderman Milton Batiste III and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK


MAYOR