

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2014

The Council of the City of Opelousas, Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, convened in a regular session on this 12th day of August 2014 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. Alderman Julius Alsandor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., seconded by Aldermen Reginald Tatum and Joseph Charles and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 07/08/2014.

On a motion by Alderman Blair Briggs, seconded by Aldermen Reginald Tatum and Julius Alsandor and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the agenda, with the following changes: *adding under the PRESENTATIONS Section, Item No. 8-A*, "Discuss request by Police Chief Perry Gallow to increase the Salary line item (54210-1101) in the amount of \$38,025.00 based on checks received from District Attorney's office for LACE Program"; *adding under the CONSENTS Section, Item No. 18-A*, "Authority to go into Executive Session for Discussion by Attorney Pride Doran regarding resolution of litigation related issues"; *correcting under the CONSENTS Section, Item No. 18*, "...effective 09/14/2014" *should be* "...effective 08/31/2014".

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation for recognition of the Employee of the Month. The Employee of the Month for July 2014 is Mrs. Ines Maldonado. She is married and has six children and five grandchildren. Mrs. Maldonado has been employed with the Opelousas City Court as a Deputy Clerk Cashier and Records Clerk for three years.

Presentation by Ms. Gerri Belton regarding the Marcel Goudeau Veterans Center located at 1131 S. Railroad Avenue. Mayor Cravins stated that Ms. Belton would have to go before the Planning Commission before the Council can make a decision on this matter. He explained that Ms. Belton has a building that is located at 1131 S. Railroad Avenue which was an adult day care center previously. The building had sustained some damage and still needs repairs. She is proposing to do the renovations and then turn the building into a Veterans Center so that veterans will have access to some volunteer services donated to them in the community. Ms. Belton found out today that she needs to go before the Planning Commission so that they can approve the building and whatever repairs need to be made and then bring it to the Council for final approval pending the Planning Commission's approval. No action needed at this time.

Discuss request for VARIANCE of property located in a C2 (Commercial 2) Zone at 1629 Creswell Lane for a 25' pylon sign (Waffle House, Inc.). Mrs. Doucet stated that this location is in the Wal-Mart parking lot. A Public Hearing regarding this matter was held by the Planning Commission on 08/11/2014. The Commission approved the request. On a motion by Aldermen Blair Briggs and Joseph Charles, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the request for VARIANCE of property located in a C2 (Commercial 2) Zone at 1629 Creswell Lane for a 25' pylon sign (Waffle House, Inc.).

Discuss request by Police Chief Perry Gallow to increase the Salary line item (54210-1101) in the amount of \$38,025.00 based on checks received from District Attorney's office for LACE Program. On a motion by Alderman Joseph Charles and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, it was resolved to approve the request by Police Chief Perry Gallow to increase the Salary line item (54210-1101) in the amount of \$38,025.00 based on checks received from District Attorney's office for LACE Program. 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.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Budget Committee.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 6, 2014 @ 4:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Julius Alsandor, Chairman; Jacqueline Martin; Blair Briggs; and Reginald Tatum.

ABSENT: None

A moment of silent meditation was observed.

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2014

1. *Discussion regarding renewal of Fiscal Agent agreement for 2014-2016.* Alderman Julius Alsandor stated that it was his understand that this item was on the regular full council meeting agenda last month and it is just to bring it to the Budget Committee for them to present it forward for approval. Ms. Karen Frank clarified that last month they were given authorization for bids and they are asking to extend the current contract with American Bank and they would stay with the same rates. Alderman Reginald Tatum stated that he thought that they had to solicit bids every two years. Ms. Frank stated that the City has the option to extend the contract. Alderman Blair Briggs asked if any other bank in town expressed interest. Ms. Frank stated that no other bank had expressed interest but each bank is offered the opportunity to participate in certain percentages in the Fiscal Agent contract but everything is filtered through American Bank. Alderman Tatum asked if there was a clause in the contract that said they could extend. Ms. Frank stated that they have extended the contract several times in the past. Alderman Tatum asked that they review the contract prior to the regular meeting and bring to the full council.

Mayor Cravins asked the City Clerk Karen Frank (Lavolette) if any other institution had applied. Mrs. Lavolette stated that they have not had any bids since 2010 and then the City extended the contract in 2012 with American Bank. They also have Liberty Bank and Hancock Bank who are participating with American Bank in the Fiscal Agent contract. Mayor Cravins inquired about the service the City was receiving. Mrs. Lavolette stated that there was no problem with the service and that the City does not pay any fees and all the checks are free. The interest rates are pretty much the same everywhere. Mayor Cravins acknowledged that Mr. Ronnie Lashute, president of American Bank, was in attendance. Alderman Tatum asked the City attorney if he saw any problems with the City not soliciting bids. Attorney Duplechain stated that he suspects there is a clause in the contract which allows the City to extend the contract by American Bank. Mayor Cravins pointed out that the question is whether or not there is a provision that the City cannot extend the contract. If there is no prohibition against extending it, then the Council should be able to—by an affirmative vote—extend the contract. Attorney Duplechain stated that the Council has the authority to extend the contract should it wish to do so. On a motion by Alderman Blair Briggs and seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to approve the extension of the Fiscal Agent contract with American Bank for 2014-2016.

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.

2. *Discussion regarding pay increase for Mr. Israel Roberts in the Water Department.* Ms. Laura Balthazar stated that she went before the Civil Service Committee to request that Israel Roberts' salary be increased by \$2.22 per hour. They did not oppose this request but she was told that in order to do this, she would have to come before the Budget Committee to make sure there is enough money in that line item to take care of the increase in his salary and so that they can adjust the pay scale. On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin and Alderman Blair Briggs, it was resolved to forward to the full council for approval.

Alderman Alsandor pointed out that there was a correction to the hourly amount. It should be an increase of \$2.55 per hour. On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderman Blair Briggs, it was resolved to approve the pay increase adjustment of \$2.55 per hour for Mr. Israel Roberts in the Water Department, effective 05/01/2014.

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.

3. *Discussion regarding creation of a Laborer I position in the Sewer Department.* Ms. Laura Balthazar stated that because of overtime in the Sewer Department she thought it was best that they add a new position of Laborer I in the Sewer Department with the following recommendations for the job description for Laborer I-Sewer: have a high school diploma and be mechanically-inclined to repair some of the parts at the lift station. Civil Service has approved the creation of this position. On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, it was resolved to forward to the full council for approval.

Ms. Balthazar requested that the title be changed to Lift Station Maintenance Repairman. Alderman Alsandor asked if this change would have to go back to Civil Service. Ms. Balthazar stated that she and Mrs. Walker in Civil Service will discuss the job descriptions. On a motion by Alderman Blair Briggs and seconded by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., it was resolved to approve the creation of a Lift Station Maintenance Repairman in the Sewer Department.

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.

4. *Discussion regarding request by Opelousas Public Library for increase in reimbursements.* Ms. Estelle Perrault spoke about how the library came about in the City of Opelousas. She stated that the city community in Opelousas back in the mid '60s voted that they wanted to have a library because the parish had voted against it twice. St. Landry is the only parish in Louisiana that does not have a Parish library. Opelousas and Eunice overwhelmingly supported it and voted for a one percent sales tax for the library. However, over the years they have not been supported very well. Ms. Perrault pointed out that the last time the Library got a raise was in order to pay the workers minimum wage. On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderman Blair

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2014

Briggs and Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, it was resolved to increase the Library's budget by \$1,000.00 per month and send to the full council for approval.

On a motion by Alderman Blair Briggs and Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin and seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to increase the Library's budget by \$1,000.00 per month.

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.

5. *Discussion regarding the fiscal year 2014-2015 budget.* The following items were requested for the fiscal year 2014-2015 budget:

Ms. Laura Balthazar stated that Mr. Richard Hollier, chairman of the Municipal Civil Service Board, is requesting a five percent (5%) increase for Mrs. Darlene Breaux in the Civil Service Department to be added to the Civil Service salary line item. The increase amounts to \$1,497.00.

Chief Lee Cahanin stated that he wants to clarify a few items in his budget. One of the items is to begin replacing generators at the fire stations. He was asked to phase them in with one per year. Next, he has seven vacancies in the fire department that he is getting ready to fill. All of this is within his budget. At the Budget hearings, he requested that they hire two additional people so that they could go through the training process so that they could be ready to be put on the line at the first of the year. At that time, he will have retirements and those positions will be vacant. Chief Cahanin wants to know what the status is on hiring the two additional people. Alderman Alsandor stated that through the discussion, it was decided that because the generator was going to be a part of this new budget, they said they would move forward and wait on the other two hires. Next, Chief Cahanin stated that he has had issues with gas leaking into the sewer system. Normally, he calls in DEQ which does all of the monitoring for them. He would like to have this equipment in-house because they have had to call DEQ on a frequent basis. There are two different types of monitoring equipment and he would like to have both which amounts to \$15,000.00.

Chief Perry Gallow stated that he needs an additional \$90,000.00 for three (3) additional police officers. Alderman Alsandor asked if the three officers were within the Police Department budget. Ms. Frank stated that she was not given any figures for the new officers. Alderman Briggs recommended that they give an additional \$20,000.00 to the Police Department budget.

Ms. Laura Balthazar requested an additional \$700.00 for computer software upgrades for the Civil Service Department.

Mrs. Margaret Doucet will be filling two positions (Laborer and Assistant Code Officer). Ms. Frank stated that Code Enforcement's current employees' salaries amount to \$256,068.80. Mrs. Doucet will have to provide the amount of the salaries for the two additional employees. Ms. Frank stated that she would get the salary for Laborer from Civil Service and Mrs. Doucet will have the amount for the Assistant Code Officer before the regular meeting. Alderman Alsandor questioned the line item for Demolition that was not used. Mrs. Doucet stated that she needed an additional \$6,000.00 in that line item for demolitions that the City could not handle because of asbestos where an outside company has to be used. She is also requesting an additional \$3,000.00 for computer software upgrades.

Chief Perry Gallow stated that he needs an additional \$10,000.00 for software upgrades for the police department computers. Alderman Tatum stated that it may be more cost-effective to piggy-back all of the City's computers under one software update.

Mr. Israel Roberts has been doing extra duties since May. He stated that it is time to change the equipment and have more people doing the work where they could have one crew fixing water leaks and the other crew changing out those lines. He pointed out that they need to change the way they are doing things.

On a motion by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to send the amended and proposed budget with adjustments to the full council for approval.

Mrs. Laviolette gave a breakdown of the proposed adjustments*:

Civil Service - \$1,497.00 for the salary increase

Fire Department - \$15,000.00 for monitoring equipment

Police Department - \$20,000.00 for salaries

Civil Service - \$700.00 for computer software upgrades

Code Enforcement - \$45,177.60 without benefits for new Asst. Code Officer and Laborer salaries; \$6,000.00 for demolitions; \$3,000.00 for computer software upgrades

Police Department - \$10,000.00 for computer software upgrades

Library - \$12,000.00 – annual budget increase

***These items will be approved with the adoption of the Budget during Public Hearings.**

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Aldermen Blair Briggs and Joseph Charles and unanimously carried, it was resolved to accept the Budget Committee Report.

Presentation by City Attorney. Attorney Garrett Duplechain had no business to discuss.

Engineers Monthly Report. Mr. William Jarrell stated that they received bids last Thursday on the cleaning and re-painting of the elevated storage tank at South Park. The low bidder was BLASTCO TEXAS with a bid of \$588,000.00. Mayor Cravins asked if the City had the resources available to pay this. Ms. Balthazar stated that they have a balance of

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2014

\$353,000.00 left in the funds from the Water Storage Shed project which can be used for this project. The balance of \$235,000.00 will come from utility bond funds. Mr. Jarrell stated that the Council just needs to award the contract and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE FOR SOLICITATION FOR MONETARY DONATIONS BY MINORS ON BEHALF OF A SCHOOL, CLUB, OR ORGANIZATION. Pursuant to advertisement in the Daily World, a Public Hearing was opened at 5:34 p.m. to adopt AN ORDINANCE FOR SOLICITATION FOR MONETARY DONATIONS BY MINORS ON BEHALF OF A SCHOOL, CLUB, OR ORGANIZATION.

Alderman Blair Briggs stated that this is namely at the intersections of Creswell and Union and at Union and Vine. This ordinance will ensure that the minors have adult supervision while they are soliciting donations. Alderman Briggs read the ordinance at this time. Mr. Kerstan Major questioned the provision which prohibits minors from stepping onto the street to obtain donations. He feels that this should be changed to allow minors to enter street when cars are stopped. Alderman Briggs agreed with this and suggested that they remove Item 3 from the ordinance.

The Public Hearing was closed at 5:40 p.m.

On a motion by Alderman Blair Briggs and seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum, the following Ordinance was offered for adoption with the deletion of Item No. 3:

ORDINANCE NO. 03 OF 2014
AN ORDINANCE FOR SOLICITATION FOR MONETARY DONATIONS
BY MINORS ON BEHALF OF A SCHOOL, CLUB, OR ORGANIZATION

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Opelousas, Louisiana, that any school, club, or organization may not have minors soliciting the public for monetary donations on behalf of said school, club, or organization within the city limits of the City of Opelousas, unless said school, club, or organization shall:

1. Provide one (1) adult over the age of twenty-one (21), for every five (5) minors under the age of eighteen (18), to supervise said minors as they solicit monetary donations for said school, club, or organization, and
2. Obtain a permit from the Opelousas Police Department to have minors solicit monetary donations; said permit shall be obtained 48 hours before solicitation activities commence and shall state:
 - a. the name of the school, club, or organization that will have minors soliciting monetary donations on it's behalf;
 - b. the day and the time said solicitation for monetary donation activities shall commence and cease; and
 - c. the street address or addresses where said solicitation for monetary donation activities shall take place.
- ~~3. Ensure that no minor, at any time, shall step onto a street or road while engaging in solicitation for monetary donations. This line was stricken from the Ordinance during the Public Hearing and is no longer valid.~~

Any school, club, or organization that violates this Ordinance shall:

1. On the first offense receive a warning from the City of Opelousas, to be mailed by certified mail or hand-delivered, to said school, club, or organization;
2. On the second offense receive a warning from the City of Opelousas, to be mailed by certified mail or hand-delivered, to said school, club, or organization;
3. On the third offense, and every offense thereafter, said school, club, or organization, shall be subject to a Fifty Dollar (\$50.00) fine, for each offense.

If any school, club, or organization does not violate this Ordinance for three consecutive years, the next violation of this Ordinance by said school, club, or organization shall be deemed a first offense.

This Ordinance shall take effect on September 1, 2014.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on the 10th day of June, 2014, by Alderman Blair Briggs, 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

A PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS OPERATING BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2013 AND ENDING AUGUST 31, 2014. Pursuant to advertisement in the Daily World, a Public Hearing was opened at 5:41 p.m. to adopt AN

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2014

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OPERATING BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2013 AND ENDING AUGUST 31, 2014.

Mrs. Laviolette stated that they are asking to amend the FY 2013-2014 Budget with a net change in the fund balance of \$78,339.00 which will bring up the fund balance for end of this fiscal year to \$1,431,770.00. Mayor Cravins asked how they are to know that all of the bills have been paid for this fiscal year—suppose a department has held \$200,000-\$300,000 in bills. Mrs. Laviolette stated that this would be something that would have to be brought back before the Board of Aldermen. Mrs. Laviolette stated that they would hope that none of the departments would do this. Alderman Alsandor commended all of the department heads for the job they have done over the last year and a half for them to now have a fund balance for the amount of monies they now have.

The Public Hearing was closed at 5:45 p.m.

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderman Blair Briggs, the following Ordinance was offered for adoption:

ORDINANCE NO. 04 OF 2014

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OPERATING BUDGET OF
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2013 AND ENDING AUGUST 31, 2014

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Aldermen, of the City of Opelousas, Louisiana in general session convened that:

SECTION I. The attached detailed budget of Revenues for Fiscal Year beginning September 1, 2013 and ending August 31, 2014, has been and the same was hereby amended to serve as an Operating Budget of Revenues for the City of Opelousas, Louisiana, during the same period.

SECTION II. The attached budget of Expenditures by departments for the Fiscal Year beginning September 1, 2013 and ending August 31, 2014, has been and the same was hereby amended to serve as a budget of expenditures for the City during the said period.

SECTION III. The amending of this Operating Budget of Expenditures has been and the same was hereby declared to operate as an appropriation of the amount therein set forth within the terms of the budget classification.

SECTION IV. Amounts were available for expenditures only to the extent included with the 2013-2014 budget.

Said Ordinance having been introduced on July 8, 2014, by Alderman Julius Alsandor, notice of public hearings having been published, said public hearings 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.

ABSTAINED: None.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

A PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS OPERATING BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2014 AND ENDING AUGUST 31, 2015. Pursuant to advertisement in the Daily World, a Public Hearing was opened at 5:45 p.m. to adopt AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE OPERATING BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2014 AND ENDING AUGUST 31, 2015.

Mrs. Laviolette stated that with the additions that were added, the City is proposing to adopt \$16,016,809.00 for expenditures for this upcoming fiscal year. Prior to the additions, the City was only about \$12,000.00 in the black. Now the fund balance will be reduced by \$75,000.00. Mayor Cravins read the budget message that accompanied the budget and pointed out that sales tax revenues are forecasted to remain steady for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. He also pointed out that there is an interest of late in companies that are wanting to come to Opelousas which will provide some new revenue. He commended the Council and the Department Heads in the work they did in trying to maintain a balanced budget and for making some very tough sacrifices as they try to maintain the operation of the City and balance the budget at the same time.

The Public Hearing was closed at 5:50 p.m.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 05 OF 2014

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE OPERATING BUDGET OF
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2014 AND ENDING AUGUST 31, 2015

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Aldermen, of the City of Opelousas, Louisiana in general session convened that:

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2014

SECTION I. The attached detailed estimate of Revenues for Fiscal Year beginning September 1, 2014 and ending August 31, 2015, be and the same is hereby adopted to serve as an Operating Budget of Revenues for the City of Opelousas, Louisiana, during the same period.

SECTION II. The attached estimate of Expenditures by departments for the Fiscal Year beginning September 1, 2014 and ending August 31, 2015, be and the same is hereby adopted to serve as a budget of expenditures for the City during the said period.

SECTION III. The adoption of this Operating Budget of Expenditures be and the same is hereby declared to operate as an appropriation of the amount therein set forth within the terms of the budget classification.

SECTION IV. Amounts are available for expenditures only to the extent included with the 2014-2015 budget. Said Ordinance having been introduced on July 8, 2014, by Alderman Julius Alsandor, notice of public hearings having been published, said public hearings 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.

ABSTAINED: None.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

At this time, Mayor Cravins commented on the recent death of comedian/actor Robin Williams. He pointed out that there was probably no one in there that had not seen something done by Robin Williams. He stated that all of us in our own way were kind of touched by his life.

RESOLUTIONS

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF FUNDS FROM THE TOURISM DEPARTMENT FOR THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS' 3RD CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION TO BE HELD IN 2020. Mayor Cravins stated that in 2020, Opelousas will be 300 years old. He stated that Mrs. Melanie Lee-LeBouef, Tourism Director, has proposed that the City set up a fund to begin the promotion of the 300 years of existence of the City and that we do it from some of the monies that are generated from the Tourism Department. They will put money away every year so that they will have the money to do it. On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderman Blair Briggs, the following Resolution was offered for adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 10 OF 2014

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE OPELOUSAS TRI-CENTENNIAL COMMISSION AND THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE TRI-CENTENNIAL OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS TO BE OBSERVED IN THE YEAR 2020
WHEREAS, the year 2020 marks the Tri-Centennial of Opelousas, Louisiana, the third oldest European settlement in the state established in 1720 as Le Poste des Opelousas;
WHEREAS, the Council recognizes the importance of this milestone event and agrees to appropriate funds on an annual basis to be encumbered for Tri-Centennial related events observed in the year 2020;
WHEREAS, the Council elects to have funds encumbered annually from remaining funds from the City of Opelousas tourism budget and/or remaining General Budget funds for the amount of no less than \$5000;
WHEREAS, a Tri-Centennial Committee shall be established, who shall work with staff and volunteers to assist in coordinating the City's Tri-Centennial Celebration observed in 2020.
PASSED and ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Opelousas at a regular meeting thereof held on the 12th day of August, 2014 with the following roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

CONSENTS

On a motion by Aldermen Reginald Tatum and Louis Butler, Jr., and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin and Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to approve payment to Jose Mendez for one hundred twelve (112) hours of unused annual leave. Mr. Mendez has resigned from the Opelousas Police Department, effective 05/19/2014.

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2014

On a motion by Aldermen Reginald Tatum and Louis Butler, Jr., and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin and Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to accept the resignation of Operator Stuart Young in the Fire Department, effective 08/11/2014.

On a motion by Aldermen Reginald Tatum and Louis Butler, Jr., and seconded by Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin and Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to approve the hiring of (a) Brett Romero; (b) Jason White, and (c) Ryan Schultz to fill vacancies in the Fire Department, effective 08/31/2014, pending successful completion of prerequisites.

A roll call vote of the Consents Section 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alderman Alsandor stated that tomorrow is the start of school in St. Landry Parish. He is asking that when parents go to school, that they go there and talk to the principals, assistants, and teachers—inquire—be a part of the school system. He pointed out that when students are young there is a lot of participation; however, we need more participation from parents of students in sixth grade and up. In order to be successful, we have talk to each other. As we continue talk to each other and not at one another, we find common ground to where we can move forward and do better for our kids. All of us want our children to be better than where we were at that age. He stated that the community, the school, and the district must work together then the City will move forward.

At this time, Mayor Cravins called up Pastor Easton Shelvin. Mr. Shelvin is a coach for the Louisiana Rockets, an AAU Basketball team. His team recently went to Las Vegas for the AAU West Coast National Championship. Following are the team coaches: Coach Mona Bob, 6th & 7th Grades; Coach Lee and Coach Zachery, 8th Grade; and Coach Shelvin, 9th & 10th Grades. The team placed as follows: 6th Grade – 4th place; 7th Grade – 2nd place; 8th Grade – 1st place; 9th Grade – 1st place; and 10th Grade – 1st place. Mr. Shelvin thanked the parents and the community for their support. A reception in the team's honor was held in the City Hall atrium.

On a motion by Aldermen Reginald Tatum and Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., and unanimously carried, it was resolved to grant authority to go into Executive Session at 6:15 p.m. for discussion by Attorney Pride Doran regarding resolution of litigation related issues. Attorney Doran was not present and Attorney Christopher Lear presided in his absence.

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles and unanimously carried, it was resolved to go back into Regular Session at 6:25 p.m.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderman Louis Butler, Jr., it was resolved to settle the Gorman case for \$75,000.00 payable to Joyce Gorman.

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.

On a motion by Alderman Blair Briggs and seconded by Alderman Julius Alsandor, it was resolved to settle the Ron Turner case up to \$15,000.00.

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.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderman Blair Briggs, it was resolved to transfer Attorney Pride Doran's cases to City Attorney Garrett Duplechain.

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.

On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and seconded by Alderman Julius Alsandor, it was resolved to pay all outstanding invoices for Attorney Pride Doran, pending review of charges.

**CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2014**

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.

There being nothing further to come before the Council, on a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously seconded and carried, it was resolved that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR