

CITY OF OPELOUSAS
OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 9, 2014

The Council of the City of Opelousas, Parish of St. Landry, State of Louisiana, convened in a regular session on this 9th day of December 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Donald Cravins, Sr., was not in attendance. With Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin presiding as Mayor Pro Tem, the meeting was called to order.

Alderwoman Martin requested the City Clerk to call the roll and the following Council members were PRESENT: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Blair Briggs, Reginald Tatum and Jacqueline Martin. ABSENT: Louis Butler, Jr.

A moment of silent meditation was observed. Mayor-elect Reginald Tatum led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Alderman Joseph Charles, seconded by Alderman Blair Briggs, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 11/12/2014.

On a motion by Alderman Joseph Charles, seconded by Alderman Julius Alsandor and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the agenda, with the following changes: *deleting under the PRESENTATIONS Section, Item No. 8*, "Discuss request for VARIANCE of property located in a C1 (Commercial 1) Zone at I-49 Service Road North, "Tract 3D", to place a Mobile Office Building (St. Landry Parish Federal Credit Union)".

PRESENTATIONS

A Resolution of Sympathy for the late Rev. Woodrow Thompson. The Resolution was ready by Mayor Pro-Tem Jacqueline Martin and was presented to Rev. Thompson's son, Reginald Thompson.

**RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCE
A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF
REVEREND WOODROW THOMPSON**

WHEREAS, Reverend Woodrow Thompson was born in Hammond, LA on December 24, 1926 to the late Samuel Allen and Mrs. Ethel Cunningham Thompson. He was the seventh child of thirteen children and was reared in Bogalusa, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, his death has resulted in the loss of a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin and friend, and;

WHEREAS, Reverend Thompson joined the Greater Ebenezer Baptist Church of Bogalusa, LA at an early age. On November 18, 1950, Woodrow Thompson and the late Muriel Ruth Boswell Thompson were united in marriage. To this union two children were born, Reginald and Susie. Reverend Thompson joined Little Zion Baptist Church and served as Treasurer, Sunday School Teacher, Deacon and later associate minister, and;

WHEREAS, he graduated from Bogalusa's Central High School. His athleticism was reflected in his participation in football, basketball and track, he also served as captain. He served as president of his senior class

WHEREAS, Thompson attended Southern University after he was awarded a football scholarship in 1946. Thompson was not able to retain his scholarship due to a knee injury. He still wanted to be a success in athletics so he pursued tennis which was a very rewarding decision, and;

WHEREAS, in 1952, Reverend Woodrow Thompson received a B.S Degree in Health and Physical Education from Southern University. He later earned a Master +30 Degree in 1969 from Prairie View A & M University. He honor and recognition to his Alma Mater by continuously distinguishing himself as a committed Public Servant and Humanitarian whose deeds were worthy of being noted. His honors, accolades, awards and press releases are numerous and include the following: Woodrow Thompson First A.T.A. National Championship; Senior Olympics Hall of Fame; Commendation for Service to Southern University; Opelousas St. Landry Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the year Award; founding member of Frontiers International; Retired, Undeclared City Tennis Champion, enshrinement into the Black History Hall of Fame; 1986 recipient of This is Your Life Award from Matrons of Little Zion Baptist church, Phi Beta Sigma Humanitarian Award; 1999 inductee into the Louisiana Senior Olympic Hall of Fame; and 1988 American Tennis Association National Championship Award, which was repeated in 2001 at the age of seventy-five (75). In 2012, he was inducted into Southern University Sports Hall of Fame, and;

WHEREAS, Reverend Thompson was a loyal and dedicated coach whose untiring efforts opened doors for students and other athletes to grow and develop to their maximum potential. Whether it was in the classroom, on the tennis court, working with special needs children or in the Sunday School, he was a great teacher. His title altered from Coach to Reverend, but the calling was not answered until he was 69 years old, and;

WHEREAS, Reverend Woodrow Thompson, 87, entered eternal rest on Friday, October 24, 2014. He was preceded in death by his wife of 57 years, Muriel Ruth Boswell Thompson, his parents, Reverend and Mrs. Samuel Allen Thompson; four brothers, William Henry Thompson, Robert Whitaker Thompson, Reverend Aaron John Thompson, Sr., and Charles Edward Thompson, Sr.; four sisters, Malissia Thompson Bedford, Marie Thompson Dee, Lessie Mae Thompson Keller and Cora Lee Thompson, and;

WHEREAS, Left to cherish his memory is one son, Reginald Q. Thompson of Opelousas, LA; one daughter, Susie Thompson Wilridge of Lake Charles, LA; a devoted son-in-law, Reverend James T. Wilridge; a brother, James Thompson of Chicago, IL; a sister, Theresa Thompson Keller of Bogalusa, LA; five grandchildren, three great grandchildren, one great great grandchild, a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends whom he loved very much and a loving friend and companion Ms. Victoria Henry of Sunset, LA.; and

WHEREAS, a life lived as Reverend Thompson lived cannot die, but will live on in the hearts, memories and ideals of all those who knew and loved him. His motto was: "If I can help somebody, as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vain."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Opelousas, State of Louisiana, that they hereby express their profound regret on the death of Reverend Woodrow Thompson, and that they do extend their sincere and heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends in this time of their bereavement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution is presented to the family of the deceased.

Done and signed on this 9th day of December 2014.

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Donald R. Cravins, Sr., Mayor

Discuss request for CONDITIONAL USE of property located in a NMU (Neighborhood Mixed Use) Zone at 628 Creswell Lane to open a Beauty Salon (B & M Rental / A LA Belle Salon). A Public Hearing regarding this matter was held by the Planning Commission on 12/08/14. The Commission approved the request. On a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum, seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the request for CONDITIONAL USE of property located in a NMU (Neighborhood Mixed Use) Zone at 628 Creswell Lane to open a Beauty Salon (B & M Rental / A LA Belle Salon).

Discuss request for VARIANCE of property located in a C1 (Commercial 1) Zone at I-49 Service Road North, "Tract 3D", to place a Mobile Office Building (St. Landry Parish Federal Credit Union). **Item Deleted.**

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

Engineers Monthly Status Report. Mr. William Jarrell stated that the work on the elevated water tower has started. The Burr Street Bridge Project is nearing completion. He also noted that the construction on the water line under the railroad on Walnut Street began this morning. The time frame on this project is estimated to be about a week. Mr. Freddie Henderson, Street Department supervisor, gave more detail on this project. He stated that he and NRCS will be meeting this month and are supposed to do a walk through evaluation of that canal and once those findings are written up, he will provide everyone with a copy of those findings.

BIDS

Accept Bids for Bulk Lime (Bid #10-14). Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World for Bids for Bulk Lime (Bid #10-14), two (2) bids were received.

<i>BIDDER NAME</i>	<i>BID AMOUNT (per ton)</i>
LHOIST NORTH AMERICA (formerly CHEMICAL LIME)	\$239.61
CARMEUSE LIME	\$229.78

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor, seconded by Alderman Reginald Tatum and unanimously carried, it was resolved to take the bids under advisement and award to the lowest bidder meeting specifications.

Accept Bids for Concrete (Bid #11-14). Pursuant to an advertisement in the Daily World for Bids for Concrete (Bid #11-14), two (1) bid was received. Barry Concrete submitted a letter to the City to inform them that there will be a \$10.00 per yard price increase for all ready mix products, effective 01/01/2015; however, they will honor any written agreements and purchase orders.

<i>BIDDER NAME</i>	<i>3000 PSI Per yard</i>	<i>4000 PSI Per yard</i>	<i>EXTRA CEMENT Per bag</i>	<i>CA. CHLORIDE Per 1 Percent Per yard</i>	<i>FIBER Per bundle</i>	<i>7# Bag</i>	<i>Fill Crete</i>
BARRY CONCRETE	\$116.00	\$122.00	\$6.00	\$5.00	No bid	\$148.00	\$100.00

On a motion by Alderman Joseph Charles, seconded by Alderman Julius Alsandor and unanimously carried, it was resolved to take the bid under advisement and verify if the bid amount will be an additional \$10.00 per yard as stated in the accompanying letter.

CONSENTS

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to grant Authority to advertise a Public Hearing to adopt an Ordinance AMENDING CHAPTER 1, SECTION 12 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS, INCORPORATING INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY CERTAIN PROPERTY AND CHANGING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY ACCORDINGLY (a certain tract or parcel of land designated as "Tract A", U.S. Hwy 182 South (S. Union Street at Heather Drive) of the estate of E.E. Pavy, Sr., containing 5.339 acres or 232,555 square feet, located in Sections 150 and 160, Township 6 South, Range 4 East, St. Landry Parish, State of Louisiana (Felix Octave Pavy).

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to approve the termination of extended sick leave for Permanent Police Lieutenant Donald R. Young, effective 11/06/2014.

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On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to approve the status change of Amber N. Sylvester from Recruit Police Officer to Probational Police Officer, effective 11/06/2014.

On a motion by Alderman Julius Alsandor and seconded by Alderman Joseph Charles, it was resolved to approve the confirmation of Rodney J. Daigle from Probational Police Officer to Permanent Police Officer, effective 12/16/2014.

A roll call vote of the Consents Section was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Joseph Charles, Julius Alsandor, Blair Briggs, and Reginald Tatum.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Louis Butler, Jr.

Alderwoman Martin was ineligible from voting since she is serving as Mayor Pro-Tem for this meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Melanie Lee-Lebouef announced that the City of Opelousas Annual Children's Parade will be held on Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. starting from St, Landry Catholic Church to Creswell Lane.

Fire Chief Lee Cahanin announced that there will be a graduation ceremony on Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Evangeline Downs for the four (4) new firefighters. Chief Cahanin made a request that Civil Service be notified of testing for the Fire Chief position.

Alderwoman Jacqueline Martin thanked all the outgoing Aldermen and welcomed the newly-elected Aldermen and Alderwoman to the City.

Mayor-elect Reginald Tatum thanked all outgoing Council members and the Mayor and welcomed the new Aldermen and Alderwoman. He stated that they are going to work together as a team to move forward and better the City.

There being nothing further to come before the Council, on a motion by Alderman Reginald Tatum, seconded and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR