



**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024, 6:00PM
ABITA SPRINGS TOWN HALL
22161 LEVEL ST., ABITA SPRINGS, LA 70420**

Posted: January 22, 2024, 4:30pm

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Curtis
INVOCATION: Alderman Saussy
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Alderman Boudreaux

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ROLL CALL:

Call for Agenda Modifications
Accept December 19 & 21, 2023, Minutes

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1.) Discussion of Amendments to Instrument 2023-006 related to Section 9-231 of the Code of Ordinances to Provide for and Regulate the Use of Short-Term Rentals and to Provide For Related Matters.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1.) PROCLAMATION – Call for a Special Election to fill the Vacancy Resulting from the Loss of Alderwoman Lynne Congemi and the Appointment to fill the Vacancy
- 2.) RESOLUTION – A Resolution to Authorize Certain Actions by the Mayor, Regarding the Town Marshal/Chief of Police
- 3.) DISCUSSION – Mayor Pro Tem Selection

OPEN/ADJOURNMENT:



Instrument 2023-006

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS; TO AMEND SECTION 9-231 OF THE CODE TO PROVIDE FOR AND REGULATE THE USE OF SHORT-TERM RENTALS AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS.

1 **WHEREAS**, the short-term rental of residential units and dwellings is an increasing segment of the
2 rental market across the country; and,
3

4 **WHEREAS**, there are numerous short-term rental listings in the Town of Abita Springs; and,
5

6 **WHEREAS**, the regulation of short-term rentals is necessary to provide minimum safety requirements
7 and for the collection of applicable taxes; and,
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the regulation of short-term rentals is necessary to protect and promote the public peace
10 and the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Town of Abita Springs and the occupants of
11 short-term rentals; and,
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Abita Springs deems these amendments
14 appropriate to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Abita Springs; and,
15

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Abita Springs,
17 at its regular session convened, that Section 9-231 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Abita
18 Springs shall be amended as follows, to wit:
19

20 Amend SECTION 9-231. Short term rentals. (1.) *Applicability*, to add two new applicable zoning
21 districts as follows. The remainder of all other applicable districts, as set forth in Section 9-231 shall
22 remain in full force and effect following the amendment below.
23

24 e. Midtown Cultural District as defined in Sec. 9-218.3.

25 f. Residential-Commercial Overlay as defined in Sec. 9-229
26

27 Amend SECTION 9-231. Short term rentals. (2.) Regulations. as follows.
28

29 a. The short-term rental permit shall be in the name of the owner, who shall be an owner of the real
30 property upon which the short-term rental use is to be permitted. The owner shall provide a real
31 property document, translative of title, recorded in the St. Tammany Parish Clerk of Court's
32 Office.

33 b. The owner shall keep on file with the town the name, address, telephone number, cell phone
34 number, and e-mail address of a local agent who shall be responsible for responding to

- 35 questions or concerns regarding the operation of the short-term rental. This information shall
36 be posted in a conspicuous location within the short-term rental dwelling. The local contact
37 person shall be available 24 hours a day to accept telephone calls and respond physically to the
38 short-term rental within 60 minutes when the short-term rental is rented and occupied.
- 39 c. One person may hold no more than one short-term rental permit. On property zoned
40 residential, with more than one livable structure, only one will be allowed to be a short-term
41 rental. The permit shall not be transferable between structures.
- 42 d. Short-term rentals shall not be operated outdoors or in a recreational vehicle.
- 43 e. Short-term rentals use shall be limited to residential dwelling units existing and constructed as
44 of the date of application for the short-term rental permit.
- 45 f. Short-term rental dwellings shall meet all applicable building, health, fire, and related safety
46 codes at all times and shall be inspected by the fire department before any short-term rental
47 activity can occur. Each bedroom shall contain a smoke detector and a carbon monoxide
48 detector.
- 49 g. A minimum of one on-site parking space shall be provided for use per bedroom used by the
50 short-term rental occupants. Vehicles shall be parked in the designated area onsite and shall not
51 be parked on the street.
- 52 h. The short-term rental shall appear outwardly to be a residential dwelling. No exterior signage
53 or other exterior evidence that the property is used for short-term rental shall be permitted
54 except for a sign not more than four square feet showing the name of the house.
- 55 i. Use of the short-term rentals for commercial functions, ceremonies, and/or other special events
56 shall be prohibited.
- 57 j. The owner shall ensure that the occupants and/or guests of the short-term rental use do not
58 create unreasonable noise or disturbances, engage in disorderly conduct or violate provisions
59 of this Code or any state law pertaining to disturbing the peace, disorderly conduct,, or the use
60 of illegal drugs or be subject to fines and penalties levied by the town up to and including
61 revocation of the short-term rental permit.
- 62 k. The owner, upon notification that occupants and/or guests of his or her short-term rental use
63 have created unreasonable noise or disturbances, engaged in disorderly conduct or committed
64 violations of this Code or state law pertaining to disturbing the peace, disorderly conduct, or
65 the use of illegal drugs, shall prevent a recurrence of such conduct by those occupants or guests
66 or be subject to fines and penalties levied by the town up to and including revocation of the
67 short-term rental permit.
- 68 l. The owner shall maintain an occupational license and pay all occupancy taxes required by law,
69 including but not limited to state sales tax and hotel/motel occupancy tax.
- 70 m. No food service shall be provided by the owner or anyone on his behalf.
- 71 n. In zones that allow multi-family, for properties with more than 1 dwelling unit, only 50% of
72 dwelling units on the property can be used for short-term rentals- up to a maximum of 4.
73 However, all remaining units of owner-occupied multi-family dwelling can be rented as short-
74 term rentals. *(If the property owner lives in the four-plex, 3 units can be short term rental. If*
75 *none of the 4 units are owner occupied, then only 2 can be STR.*
- 76 o. The following “welcome information” shall be posted in a conspicuous location on an interior
77 wall inside the short-term rental for the safety and convenience of the occupants. As an
78 alternative to posting, the information may be provided in a “welcome binder” placed on a
79 coffee table, kitchen table, or other prominent location in the short-term rental.
- 80
 - The address of the short-term rental,

- 81 • the location of the nearest hospital,
- 82 • the Emergency Number is 911,
- 83 • the current non-emergency police telephone number
- 84 • the dates and approximate times of trash and recycling pick up and procedures,
- 85 • the Emergency Contact: Name and phone number of the designated responsible party,
- 86 • emergency evacuation instructions,
- 87 • the floor plan showing emergency exits and shutoff valves,
- 88 • a statement of the presence of natural gas in the residence if applicable.

89

90 Any short-term rental located in a residential district requires notice of the need to respect the
91 peace and quiet of the neighborhood residents which shall state as follows: "Please be a good
92 neighbor by not making excessive noise or engaging in boisterous behavior, especially after
93 10:00pm. Such behavior can deprive your neighbors of the peaceful enjoyment of their
94 homes".

95 (3) **Permits.** Prospective owner-applicants of short-term rental use shall apply for an annual permit with
96 the Planning Director in accordance with the provisions of this section and on a form provided by
97 the town. The application must be approved by the Zoning Commission. A short-term rental permit
98 is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked or not renewed based on non-compliance with the
99 requirements provided herein.

100 a. The application shall be accompanied by the short-term rental application fee as set forth herein to
101 cover the administrative costs of issuing a short-term rental permit and, but not limited to,
102 inspecting the following information:

- 103 1. The name, address, and phone number of the applicant, and verification that the applicant
104 is the owner of the property.
- 105 2. The assessor's parcel number of the lot on which the short-term rental use is proposed;
- 106 3. A site and floor plan identifying the location of parking on the site and the location of any
107 bedrooms to be used for short-term rental use;
- 108 4. Evidence that the property has current, valid liability insurance of \$500,000.00 or more
109 with proof that such coverage includes use as a short-term rental property; and
- 110 5. Acknowledgment of compliance with all regulations pertaining to the operation of a
111 short-term rental.
- 112 6. Occupational License
- 113 7. Fire Marshal Inspection Report
- 114 8. Copy of the required "Welcome Information"

115 b. The permit term for all short-term rental permits shall run from April 1 to March 31 of each
116 year, regardless of when issued. All permits must be renewed annually.

117 c. There shall be no more than fifteen short-term rental permits issued by the town annually.

118 d. The application fee shall be \$25.00. The annual permit fee for a short-term rental permit shall
119 be \$250.00.

120 e. Any fraud, material misrepresentations, or false statements contained in the attestations,
121 required documentation, or correlating application materials shall be grounds for immediate
122 revocation of a short-term rental permit. Furthermore, all requirements herein shall be
123 continuously maintained throughout the duration of the permit.

- 124 f. In the instance that a property with a short-term rental permit is sold, the issued permit is
125 transferable and will remain in effect for sixty days. The new property owner shall apply
126 within 60 days from the act of sale to apply for the renewal permit.
- 127 g. If an application is a renewal, it must be submitted by March 1. The application will be
128 reviewed administratively by the Planning and Zoning Director. Permits shall be issued upon
129 remittance of applicable fees and a determination that the applicant is in compliance with all
130 town ordinances. Properties found, in mayors court, to be in violation of town ordinances
131 which have not been remediated at the time of the application are ineligible for renewal.

132

133 (4) **Violations.** Any violation of this section and the correlating provisions in this chapter may subject a
134 violator to any remedy, legal or equitable, available to the town. Violations include but are not limited
135 to: advertisement or rental of a short-term rental without proper permitting, operation outside the scope
136 of any of the applicable short-term rental regulations provided by law and advertising a short-term
137 rental outside the permitted scope of a short-term rental permit. The planning director may suspend,
138 revoke or not renew any permit issued pursuant to this section if the planning director determines that
139 the permit holder has violated any provision of this section, two or more times. Remedies include but
140 are not limited to: revocation of a short-term rental permit, daily fines, and property liens, as more
141 fully provided in section 1-108 of this chapter. Each day of violation shall be considered a separate
142 offense. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to limit the legal remedies available to any other
143 person for the correction of violations of this section.

144

145 BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all other sections of Chapter 2 shall remain the same and in full
146 force.

147

148 BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provision of this Section shall be held to be invalid, such
149 invalidity shall not affect other provisions herein which can be given effect without the invalid
150 provision and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

151

152 Introduced on a motion of _____, seconded by _____ on the ____ day of ____.

153 Adopted on a motion of _____ and seconded by _____ on the ____ day of ____ 202.

154

155 The vote was:

156

157 Ayes:

158 Nays:

159 Abstentions:

160 Absent:

161

162

163

164

165

Janet Dufrene, Town Clerk

Daniel J. Curtis, Mayor



PROCLAMATION

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN FOR THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS RECOGNIZING THE FAITHFUL SERVICE PERFORMED BY ALDERWOMAN LYNNE CAMPBELL CONGEMI AND EXPRESSING BEREAVEMENT ON HER PASSING.

WHEREAS, Alderwoman Congemi had a long history of service to the Town of Abita Springs; and,

WHEREAS Ms. Congemi's service included decades of volunteer service as a member of the Planning & Zoning and Historic Commissions; and,

WHEREAS Ms. Congemi most recently served as a dedicated member of the Town's Board of Aldermen; and,

WHEREAS Ms. Congemi was a long-time and beloved resident of the Abita Springs community; and,

WHEREAS, Abita Springs has lost a most valued member in the passing of Ms. Congemi.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen recognize the contributions of Ms. Congemi;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Abita Springs expresses our appreciation and condolences to her friends and loved ones.

This Proclamation is hereby executed on this 23rd day of January 2024 by the Mayor, Daniel J. Curtis, on behalf of himself and the Board of Aldermen for the Town of Abita Springs.

Honorable Daniel J. Curtis, Mayor

RS 18:602

§602. Vacancies in certain local and municipal offices; exceptions

A. When a vacancy occurs in the office of a member of a parish or municipal governing authority or a combination thereof, a mayor, or any other local or municipal office, except an office covered by Subsections B and C of this Section and except the office of judge, state legislator, or marshal of a city or municipal court, and the office is filled by election wholly within the boundaries of a local governmental subdivision, the governing authority of the local governmental subdivision where the vacancy occurs shall within twenty days appoint a person to fill the vacancy who meets the qualifications of the office. However, if the deadline for making the appointment falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or other legal holiday, then the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday shall be deemed to be the final day for making such appointment. The presiding officer of the governing authority shall not be required to vote on such an appointment to be made by the governing authority of a local governmental subdivision unless a tie vote occurs thereon, in which case he shall vote to break the tie; however, in no case shall the presiding officer vote more than once on the appointment.

B. When a vacancy occurs in the membership of a city or parish school board, the remaining members of the board shall within twenty days declare that the vacancy has occurred and proceed to appoint a person who meets the qualifications of the office to fill the vacancy. However, if the deadline for making the appointment falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or other legal holiday, then the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday shall be deemed to be the final day for making such appointment. For the purposes of this Subsection, in addition to the definition of "vacancy" provided in R.S. 18:581, a "vacancy" in a city or parish school board office shall be deemed to have occurred when, in the case of a city school board, a member's residence no longer lies within the jurisdiction of the board or when, in the case of a parish school board, a member changes his domicile from the district he represents or, if elected after reapportionment, is domiciled outside the district he represents at the time he is sworn into office, any declaration of retention of domicile to the contrary notwithstanding.

C.(1) When a vacancy occurs in any of the following offices, the duties of the office shall be assumed by the person hereinafter designated: (a) district attorney, by the first assistant; (b) clerk of a district court, by the chief deputy; (c) coroner, by the chief deputy; (d) sheriff, by the chief criminal deputy, except that in a parish that has both a civil sheriff and a criminal sheriff, the civil sheriff by the chief civil deputy, and the criminal sheriff, by the chief criminal deputy, respectively; and (e) tax assessor, by the chief deputy assessor.

(2)(a) If there is no such person to assume the duties when the vacancy occurs, the governing authority or authorities of the parish or parishes affected shall within twenty days appoint a person having the qualifications of the office to assume the duties of the office. However, if the deadline for making the appointment falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or other legal holiday, then the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday shall be deemed to be the final day for making such appointment.

(b) If the vacancy in the office of sheriff occurs after a regularly scheduled election for the office of sheriff but prior to the beginning of the term and there is no chief deputy sheriff as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection to assume the duties of the office, the parish governing authority may appoint the person who was elected to the office of sheriff in the regular election to assume the duties of the office in the manner provided in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph.

D. If a vacancy is not filled within the time specified in Subsection A, B, or C of this Section, the governor shall fill the vacancy.

E.(1)(a) If the unexpired term of an office covered by Subsection A of this Section is eighteen months or less, the person appointed to fill the vacancy or designated to assume the duties of the office shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(b) If the unexpired term of an office covered by Subsection B or C of this Section is one year or less, the person appointed to fill the vacancy or designated to assume the duties of the office shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(c) If any member of a parish or city school board is removed or suspended from office pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 42:1411, except in the parish of Jefferson, the person appointed to fill the vacancy or to

perform the official acts, duties, and functions of that office during the period of suspension shall be eligible in the next election as a candidate for the office to which he is appointed.

(d) If a sheriff is removed or suspended from office pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 42:1411 or 1412 and a person is appointed to assume the duties of the office pursuant to Subparagraph (C)(2)(b) of this Section, the person so appointed shall be eligible in the next election as a candidate for the office to which he is appointed.

(2)(a) If the unexpired term of an office covered by Subsection A of this Section exceeds eighteen months or the unexpired term of an office covered by Subsection B or C of this Section exceeds one year, the governing authority of the local governmental subdivision in which the vacancy occurs, or the school board when the vacancy occurs in its membership, or the governor when a vacancy occurs in the office of district attorney or in an office for which there is not a single governing authority or as provided in Subsection F of this Section, within twenty days after the vacancy occurs, shall issue a proclamation ordering a special election to fill the vacancy and shall specify in the proclamation, in accordance with R.S. 18:402, the dates on which the primary and general elections shall be held and, in accordance with R.S. 18:467, 467.1, and 468, the dates of the qualifying period for candidates in the special election. However, if the deadline for issuing the proclamation falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or other legal holiday, then the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday shall be deemed to be the final day for issuing such proclamation. In selecting the dates for such special elections, the governing authority or school board as the case may be, may choose a gubernatorial or congressional election date, if such date is available within eighteen months of the occurrence of the vacancy for an office covered by Subsection A of this Section or within a year of the occurrence of the vacancy for an office covered by Subsection B or C of this Section or may select an election date in accordance with R.S. 18:402. In the cases in which the governor has the authority to select the date for such special elections, the governor shall first choose a gubernatorial or congressional election date. If no such date is available within eighteen months of the occurrence of the vacancy for an office covered by Subsection A of this Section or within a year of the occurrence of the vacancy for an office covered by Subsection B or C of this Section, the governor shall then select an election date in accordance with R.S. 18:402. If the governing authority or school board fails to issue the proclamation within twenty days after the vacancy occurs, the governor shall issue the proclamation.

(b) Immediately thereafter the governing authority or the school board or, if the governor issued the proclamation, the secretary of state shall publish the proclamation in the official journal of each parish in which the election is to be held.

(c) Within twenty-four hours after issuing the proclamation, the authority or authorities ordering the special election shall send a copy of the proclamation, by certified or registered mail, to the clerk of the district court for the parish in which the vacancy occurred. If the vacancy occurred in the parish of Orleans, the copy of the proclamation shall be so mailed to the clerk of the criminal district court. If the vacancy occurs in an office which affects more than one parish, a copy of the proclamation shall at the same time be so mailed to the clerk of each of the parishes. A copy of the proclamation also shall be mailed to the secretary of state at the same time and in the same manner.

(d) Within twenty-four hours after he receives the copy, the secretary of state shall notify all election officials having any duty to perform in connection with a special election to fill such vacancy, including the parish boards of election supervisors for the parish or parishes in which the vacancy occurred.

(3) The special election shall be held, without the necessity of a call by the governor, except in the case of a vacancy in the office of district attorney. When a special election is required, the appointee or person designated to assume the duties of the office shall serve only until the successor is elected and takes office.

(4) If the unexpired term of a parish or municipal office covered by Subsection A of this Section is eighteen months or more, but the vacancy occurs within eighteen months of the regularly scheduled primary election for that office, no special election will be called, and the appointee shall serve for the remainder of the term of office.

(5) If the unexpired term of an office covered by Subsection B of this Section is one year or more and the vacancy occurs within one year of the first election at which a redistricting plan adopted following the most recent federal decennial census is to be utilized, no special election will be called and the appointee shall serve the remainder of the term of office.

F. Whenever multiple vacancies in a local or municipal governing authority or in a school board covered by Subsection A or B of this Section reduce the membership of such governing authority or board

below the number of total members required to constitute a quorum to conduct official business, the remaining members shall immediately inform the governor of the existence of the vacancies. Within twenty days after he receives this notice, the governor shall make appointments to fill all the vacancies and shall issue a proclamation calling special elections to fill such vacancies if special elections are required under the provisions of this Section. However, if the deadline for making the appointment or issuing the proclamation, if applicable, falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or other legal holiday, then the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday shall be deemed to be the final day for making such appointment or issuing such proclamation.

G. The provisions of this Section shall apply to all local governmental subdivisions, including those operating under the provisions of a legislative charter, but shall not apply where the filling of a vacancy otherwise is provided for by the constitution or by the home rule charter or home rule plan of government of the affected local governmental subdivision. Such constitutional home rule plan provisions shall govern the filling of the vacancies, except that the provisions of R.S. 18:402 shall apply to the time and manner of calling the special elections to fill the vacancies.

Acts 1976, No. 697, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1978. Amended by Acts 1977, No. 545, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1978; Acts 1978, No. 38, §1, eff. May 31, 1978; Acts 1979, No. 229, §1, eff. July 13, 1979; Acts 1979, No. 503, §1; Acts 1980, No. 314, §1; Acts 1980, No. 792, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981; Acts 1981, No. 76, §1, eff. June 26, 1981; Acts 1981, No. 839, §1; Acts 1985, No. 754, §1; Acts 1986, No. 669, §1; Acts 1990, No. 892, §1; Acts 1992, No. 393, §1, eff. June 19, 1992; Acts 1993, No. 418, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1994; Acts 1995, No. 300, §1, eff. June 15, 1995; Acts 1997, No. 1420, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1998; Acts 2004, No. 526, §2, eff. June 25, 2004; Acts 2005, No. 431, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2006; Acts 2006, No. 622, §4, eff. Dec. 11, 2006; Acts 2012, No. 138, §1, eff. May 14, 2012; Acts 2012, No. 296, §1; Acts 2014, No. 202, §1, eff. May 22, 2014; Acts 2022, No. 177, §1, eff. May 31, 2022; Acts 2022, No. 274, §1, eff. June 3, 2022.

NOTE: See Acts 2012, No. 296, §2 regarding retroactive application of R.S. 18:602(C)(2)(b) and (E)(1)(c).

NOTE: See R.S. 42:1113(A)(1)(b) relative to eligibility of certain appointees to seek election.



PROCLAMATION

SPECIAL ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT – ALDERMAN, TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS

WHEREAS, a vacancy has been created in the office of Alderman, in the Town of Abita Springs, due to the death of Alderman Lynne Congemi on January 10, 2024;

WHEREAS, there is more than eighteen (18) months remaining between the passing of Alderman Congemi and the end of Alderman Congemi's term;

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:602(E)(2)(a) requires the governing authority of the Town of Abita Springs to call a special election to fill the vacancy when more than eighteen (18) months of the term remain unexpired;

WHEREAS, on the 23rd day of January 2024, at the regular meeting of the governing authority of the Town of Abita Springs, the Board of Aldermen issues this Proclamation for the purpose of calling a special election to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term and to make an appointment to serve during the interim period preceding the election.

NOW THEREFORE, we, the governing authority of the Town of Abita Springs, by virtue of the authority vested in us pursuant to the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: A special primary and a special general election shall be held throughout the Town of Abita Springs, for the purpose of electing an Alderman to fill the vacancy in the office of Alderman.

SECTION 2: Any qualified person desiring to become a candidate for the office shall file a notice of candidacy accompanied either by a qualifying fee or a nominating petition, as required or authorized by law, with the appropriate election official in the manner and form, and under the procedures and conditions, provided by La. R.S. 18:461 *et. seq.*, and all other applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, La. R.S. 18:1 *et. seq.*, during the period commencing Wednesday, July 17, 2024, and ending at 4:30 p.m. Friday, July 19, 2024.

SECTION 3: The special election for the unexpired term shall be held and conducted under the applicable provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, La. R.S. 18:1 et seq.

SECTION 4: The primary election shall be held Tuesday, November 5, 2024, and the general election shall be held Saturday, December 7, 2024, at the times and places and in the manner prescribed by law.

SECTION 5: The Secretary of State, Commission of Elections, Parish Board of Election Supervisors, Clerk of Court, Registrar of Voters, and all other persons charged with any power, function, right, duty, or responsibility in conducting elections in the jurisdiction of the Town of Abita Springs, Parish of St. Tammany, are hereby authorized, requested, directed, and empowered to exercise every lawful function and to do every act necessary to conduct the special election, to cause the returns to be made, to canvass and promulgate the results, and to perform all related and incidental functions.

SECTION 6: Until such time as a duly elected official shall be selected by the electors of the Town of Abita Springs, and subsequently sworn in, Regan Contois shall be appointed to serve and fill the vacancy in the office of Alderman.

THEREFORE, on motion of Alderman _____ to issue the Proclamation and seconded by Alderman _____, a roll-call vote was held, and the following results were recorded:

Yea:
Nay:
Absent:
Abstention:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands officially on this 23rd day of January 2024, at Abita Springs, Louisiana.

Janet Dufrene, Town Clerk

Daniel J. Curtis, Mayor



**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS, TO AUTHORIZE
CERTAIN ACTIONS BY THE MAYOR, INCLUDING THE REMOVAL THE POLICE CHIEF**

WHEREAS the Mayor has the duty and responsibility to supervise and direct the non-elected Police Chief of Abita Springs in accordance with Louisiana, Revised Statute 33:404; and,

WHEREAS the most persistent complaint of the citizens of the Town of Abita Springs is the lack of enforcement of speeding laws on the streets of the Town; and,

WHEREAS the Mayor has expressed this concern to both the Board of Alderman and the Chief of Police in the past; and,

WHEREAS based on the recommendation of the Mayor, the current Chief was initially reappointed on a temporary basis, in order to give him an opportunity to address the long-standing concerns of his lack of performance in enforcing these laws; and,

WHEREAS despite the ongoing efforts of the Mayor to communicate and stress the importance of the concerns of the citizens of Abita Springs, little if any progress has been made to have the Chief respond to the direction of the Mayor on this matter; and,

WHEREAS the Chief has, in fact, resisted and contested the Mayor's authority to direct him to enforce the laws of Abita Springs; and,

WHEREAS the Chief's derelict of duty in this respect is a threat to the public safety of the citizens of the Town of Abita Springs; and,

WHEREAS the Mayor, as the supervisor and administrator of the police department, has requested the authority from the Board of Alderman to remove the Police Chief, in the hopes that such authority would encourage the Chief to heed the direction of the Mayor and the pleas of the citizens to enforce the laws of the Town of Abita Springs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Alderman of the Town of Abita Springs that the Mayor is hereby granted the authority to remove Richard Bonnet, as the current Chief of Police at any time, and at the Mayor's sole discretion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is authorized to take any and all lawful actions to obtain the cooperation of the Chief to enforce the speeding laws of the Town of Abita Springs.

This resolution was adopted on a motion of _____, seconded by _____. The vote was:

Yeas:

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

Attest
Janet Dufrene, Town Clerk