

# Town of Abita Springs



**MAYOR**  
**DANIEL J. CURTIS**

The following minutes were taken at the regular meeting of the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen at 6pm on February 18, 2020 at the Town Hall in Abita Springs, Louisiana. Mayor Curtis called the meeting to order.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** The Mayor opened discussions and invited public comment related to the following Instruments. **1.)** Town Bond Attorney Alan Offner outlined necessary amendments to Instrument 2020-001 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE INCURRING OF DEBT AND ISSUANCE OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2020, OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS, STATE OF LOUISIANA; PRESCRIBING THE FORM, TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SAID BONDS; DESIGNATING THE DATE, DENOMINATION AND PLACE OF PAYMENT OF SAID BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF IN PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST; ACCEPTING BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE BONDS; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. Among other points Mr. Offner identified the recommended low bid, of 1.912% (non-callable) provided by JP Morgan Chase NA and the "Paying Agent" Argent Trust Company. **2.)** Lovelle Blich and Stewart Eastman voiced their support and opposition respectively to Instrument 2020-002 AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE A PORTION OF NORTH ST. NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR PUBLIC USE AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE SALE OF THAT PORTION OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS, ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS. **3.)** There was no public comment offered related to Instrument 2020-003 AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE A PORTION OF PINE ST. NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR PUBLIC USE AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE SALE OF THAT PORTION OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS, ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS. **4.)** Mr. Eastman raised a concern regarding the fact that the subject property referred to in INSTRUMENT 2020-004, AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ZONING AND ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN LAND AT 23425 HWY 435, was non-contiguous. Mr. Patterson moved to close the Hearings, seconded by Mr. Saussy.

Ron Blich updated attendees advising that Notre Dame students and faculty were scheduled to arrive in Abita Springs on March 9<sup>th</sup> and are scheduled to stay through the 13<sup>th</sup>.

**ROLL CALL:** Council Members Contois, Murphy, Patterson, Randolph and Saussy were present. Mr. Patterson moved to accept the January 21, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Saussy. All were in favor. Ms. Contois moved to accept the January Financial Report seconded by Mr. Murphy. All were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS: 1.)** Mr. Patterson moved to amend Instrument 2020-001 to include the points outlined in Mr. Offner's presentation and presented to the Board in writing, seconded by Mr. Saussy. After inviting public comment, the vote was taken and resulted in the following: Yeas: 5, Aldermen Contois, Murphy, Patterson, Randolph and Saussy. Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0. Mr. Patterson then made a motion to adopt as amended Instrument 2020-001 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE INCURRING OF DEBT AND ISSUANCE OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2020, OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS, STATE OF LOUISIANA; PRESCRIBING THE FORM, TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SAID BONDS; DESIGNATING THE DATE, DENOMINATION AND PLACE OF PAYMENT OF SAID BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF IN PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST; ACCEPTING BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE BONDS; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, seconded by Mr. Murphy. After inviting public comment, the vote was taken and resulted in the following: Yeas: 5, Aldermen Contois, Murphy, Patterson, Randolph and Saussy. Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0. **2.)** Mr. Patterson made a motion not to consider the adoption of Instrument 2020-002 AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE A PORTION OF NORTH ST. NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR PUBLIC USE AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE SALE OF THAT PORTION OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS, ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS, seconded by Mr. Saussy. The vote was: Yeas: 5, Aldermen Contois, Murphy, Patterson, Randolph and Saussy. Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0. With this, the Instrument was not adopted. **3.)** Mr. Patterson made a motion not to consider the adoption of Instrument 2020-003 AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE A PORTION OF PINE ST. NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR PUBLIC USE AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE SALE OF THAT PORTION OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS, ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND

TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS, seconded by Mr. Saussy. The vote was: Yeas: 5, Aldermen Contois, Murphy, Patterson, Randolph and Saussy. Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0. With this, the Instrument was not adopted. **4.)** Mr. Patterson made a motion to amend Instrument 2020-004 to replace the Commercial zoning classification with a Residential Commercial Overlay District classification as recommended during the February 4, 2020 Public Committee Meeting of the Whole, seconded by Mr. Murphy. The vote was: Yeas: 5, Aldermen Contois, Murphy, Patterson, Randolph and Saussy. Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0. Mr. Patterson made a motion to adopt as amended, Instrument 2020-004, AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ZONING AND ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN LAND AT 23425 HWY 435 INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS, LOUISIANA AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS, seconded by Mr. Saussy. The vote was: Yeas: 5, Aldermen Contois, Murphy, Patterson, Randolph and Saussy. Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0.

**NEW BUSINESS: 1.)** Town Marshal appointee, Richard Bonnet, addressed the Board. Mr. Bonnet detailed his work history and experience in law enforcement. He expressed his appreciation for his appointment adding that he was humbled by the opportunity. Mr. Saussy moved to adopt a RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF RICHARD BONNET AS TOWN MARSHAL, seconded by Ms. Randolph.. The vote was: Yeas: 5, Aldermen Contois, Murphy, Patterson, Randolph and Saussy. Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0. **2.)** Mr. Patterson made a motion to introduce Instrument 2020-005 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS; TO EXTEND A MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF ANY PERMITS BY THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OR DEVELOPMENT OF ANY LOTS WHICH ARE PART OF A RESUBDIVISION OF LAND IN THE AREA COMPRISING THE FORMER BROOK FOREST RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, seconded by Mr. Saussy.

**OPEN/ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mr. Eastman reminded the Board of the Town's participation in the Sierra Club's "Ready for 100" initiative and encouraged Board Members to act to move toward energy sustainability. Ms. Contois announced that the Friends of the Park organization will be sponsoring a tree give-away on March 8<sup>th</sup> at the Trailhead where 1200 saplings will be given away free of charge to the public. She also noted that various organizations are coordinating an Earth Day Celebration to be held at the Park on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Patterson moved to adjourn the Town Council Meeting, seconded by Mr. Saussy.

MEETING ADJOURNED

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 18th DAY OF JANUARY 2020.

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Janet Dufrene, Town Clerk

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Honorable Daniel J. Curtis, Mayor