



The following minutes were taken at the regular meeting of the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen at 6pm on November 19, 2024, at the Town Hall in Abita Springs, Louisiana. Mayor Curtis called the meeting to order.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Curtis presented the 2025 Town Council Meeting Schedule. The Mayor next provided an update on the status of the Level/Burvant St. project.

ROLL CALL: Council Members Boudreaux, Contois, Patterson, Saussy and Templet were present. Mr. Patterson moved to accept the October 15, 2024, meeting minutes, and Mr. Boudreaux seconded the motion. The vote was: Yeas: 4, Aldermen Boudreaux, Contois, Patterson and Templet, Nays: 1, Alderman Saussy, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0. When the Mayor called for agenda modifications, Mr. Saussy made a motion to amend the agenda to include consideration of a resolution related to the payment of back wages and expenses to the Town Marshal. Mr. Boudreaux seconded the motion. After hearing public comment, the vote was: Yeas: 3, Aldermen Saussy, Boudreaux and Contois, Nays: 2, Aldermen Patterson, and Templet, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0. Unanimous consent was required, so the motion failed.

NEW BUSINESS: 1.) Town Attorney Edward Deano summarized his prepared opinion related to the lawfulness of Mr. Saussy's proposal to pay back-wages and expenses to the Town Marshal for the period of his suspension. He addressed specific points made in Mr. Saussy's resolution. Mr. Deano explained that while the Marshal clearly had a right to counsel, he did not assert that right. He also referenced state law wherein the use of public funds for private purposes is strictly prohibited adding that it was unlawful for the Marshal to receive back-pay for the period of his suspension. 2.) Mayor Curtis opened discussion of **A RESOLUTION TO EXECUTE A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS AND THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, AND THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.** The agreement involved Act 776 of the State Legislature which provided \$150,000.00 to the Town of Abita Springs to repair the deck at the Trailhead Museum. No matching funds would be required. Mr. Patterson moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Templet. After hearing public comment, the vote was: Yeas: 5 Aldermen Boudreaux, Contois, Patterson, Saussy and Templet. Nays: 0, Absent: 0, Abstain: 0.

OLD BUSINESS: None

OPEN/ADJOURNMENT: Residents commented on bike paths, the budget, and the Marshal during the Open section.

Mr. Patterson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Saussy.

**MEETING ADJOURNED
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024.**

Janet Dufrene, Town Clerk

Honorable Daniel J. Curtis, Mayor