



These minutes are from the Town of Abita Springs Public Committee Meetings on March 3, 2020. Mr. Murphy appointed Mr. Patterson to serve as Economic Development Committee Chairman in Ms. Randolph's absence.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Curtis announced that the Town addressed some unresolved issues related to GOHSEP administration of project reimbursement from FEMA for Hurricane Katrina. The result of the reconciliation of the project work orders is that the town was owed \$91,000.00. Jay Hawkins suggested that some of the money be used to pay off higher interest bonds and eliminate part of the Town's long-term debt obligation.

Mr. Saussy made a motion to change the order of the Committee Meetings, handling the Economic Development Committee Meeting Agenda first, seconded by Ms. Contois. All were in favor.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Mr. Patterson moved to open the Economic Development Committee Meeting and to accept the February 2020 minutes, seconded by Ms. Contois. 1.) Historic Commission Chairman Ron Blich presented plans for construction of a stair tower at the Trailhead. He noted that the Abita Fall Fest organization has agreed to support the effort to raise funds. Mr. Blich explained that because of life-safety code requirements, the current stair design reduces the number of people that can utilize the second story of the Pavilion at one time. He added that the original design had a separate stairway with an elevated walk. 2.) Brew Pub Proprietor Anthony Essiaed presented a review and accounting of last year's Abita Fall Fest. Mr. Essiaed confirmed that Fall Fest profits will be dedicated to the Stair Tower Project. He added that the festival will increase the number of free kid's activities and add shuttles. Expectations are that the festival will bring approximately 3000 guests to Abita Springs in 2020. Mr. Patterson moved to close the meeting, seconded by Ms. Contois.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Ms. Contois moved to open the Finance Committee Meeting and accept the February 2020 minutes, seconded by Mr. Murphy. 1.) Jay Hawkins reported that the January Financial Report is incomplete and that he would forward it as soon as it is available. Ms. Contois moved to close the committee meeting seconded by Mr. Murphy.

GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE: Mr. Saussy moved to open the Governmental Committee Meeting and to accept the February 2020 minutes, seconded by Mr. Murphy. 1.) Mr. Saussy opened discussion of 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. Planning and Zoning Commissioner Dan Underwood asked the Board to explain the prohibition related to permitting during the moratorium, adding that he was under the impression that the prior moratorium applied to the subdividing of land. Town Attorney Edward Deano replied that the Board of Aldermen cannot prohibit the resubdivision of land. Mr. Deano went on to state that this activity is completely under the authority of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mayor Curtis suggested that the requested three-acre minimum could be enacted through a homeowner's association. Local resident Donna Caire said that she hoped that a Master Plan would include a zoning provision to preserve a three-acre minimum lot size on some of the property on the outskirts of town. Ms. Caire explained that residents on Brook Forest do not have the capacity to monitor building on the road and would like to see the larger lots incorporated into the code. Ms. Contois summarized by concluding that it appears a new zoning addressing creation of larger minimum lot sizes might be in order. She asked Counsel if the Board could draft and request something that would address the issue. Mr. Deano confirmed that the suggested course would be proper. Mr. Murphy made a motion to favorably recommend Instrument 2020-005 to the Council, seconded by Mr. Saussy; both were in favor. Mr. Saussy made a motion to close the Governmental Committee, seconded by Mr. Murphy.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE: Mr. Patterson moved to open the Infrastructure Committee Meeting and to accept the February 2020 minutes, seconded by Mr. Saussy. Mayor Curtis directed attendees' attention to the video feed on the monitors. Mr. Patterson moved to close the meeting, seconded by Mr. Saussy.

Mr. Patterson made a motion to close the committee meetings, seconded by Mr. Saussy.

MEETING ADJOURNED
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 3rd DAY OF MARCH 2020.

Janet Dufrene, Town Clerk

Daniel J. Curtis, Mayor