



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen was held at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at the Abita Springs Town Hall. Mayor Pro Tem Patterson, acting as Chairman, called the meeting to order.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Pro Tem Patterson delivered the Mayor's announcements, noting that the town is currently accepting candy donations for Halloween. He added that improvements at the Abita Nature Center are progressing, with completion of upgrades expected by year end.

ROLL CALL: Council Members Boudreaux, Contois, Saussy, and Templet were present. Mayor Pro Tem Patterson was present and acted as Chairman. Mr. Saussy moved to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2025, Town Council meeting, seconded by Ms. Contois. The motion was approved unanimously.

MARSHAL'S REPORT: Marshal Bonnett reported activity from August 4, 2025, to September 7, 2025, including 75 traffic stops, 37 citations, 2 written warnings, 1 traffic arrest, 1 verbal warning, and 9 traffic accidents.

REPORTS: Mr. Boudreaux began his report by noting that 105 work orders were successfully completed in August. He also reported that a water leak at Second and St. Mary Street had been repaired. This repair required a precautionary boil water advisory, which was promptly lifted. He further advised that the slab for the new wastewater treatment plant has been poured and the project remains on schedule for completion in May 2026.

Ms. Contois reported on planning activities, announcing that the Planning and Zoning Department will host a series of community meetings beginning Wednesday, September 24, with a focus on West Abita to allow for more in-depth discussion of the town's rezoning plans. Additional information will be available on the Town's website and social media. Residents unable to attend may send questions or concerns to Kristin Tortorich.

Mr. Saussy raised questions about 2025 budget expenses and potential shortfalls in certain line items. Ms. Jenkins stated that the Town is currently working on the 2025 amendment. Mr. Templet advised that letters requesting certifications for individual onsite sewer disposal systems were mailed to Zone 5 residents last month. Reminder letters will be sent later this month to those who have not responded. Due to current reassignments, notices for the final zone, Zone 4, are expected to be mailed in mid-October.

Mr. Patterson updated the Council on the progress and planning for the new all-inclusive playground, including potential fundraising ideas. He noted that the meeting with the Lieutenant Governor was postponed due to the Mayor's surgery but assured the board that plans are moving forward and will be available to the public soon.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Pro Tem Patterson opened discussion on the formatting of the 2025 Budget Amendment Instrument. Mr. Saussy requested more detailed information for larger line items. Danette Jenkins reported that most funds remain within budget; however, adjustments were necessary because the 2020 bond had not been included in debt service, and Parks and Recreation exceeded the 5% allowance. Revenues and expenditures were revised to maintain a balanced 2025 budget. She also mentioned potential funding availability for sewer infrastructure improvements, pending confirmation from bond counsel, DEQ, and the accountant. Additionally, the Town is considering paying off the 2004 utility bond (balance is around \$100,000) to support eligibility for the Clean Water State Revolving Loan, with the pre-application currently under review. Ms. Jenkins invited the public to contact her office with questions and explained possible changes to how the cemetery salary is allocated, suggesting a fixed annual amount. Ms. Contois inquired about the timeline for adoption of the amended 2025 budget, and it was noted that adoption is anticipated on October 21, 2025.

Mr. Boudreaux initiated discussion on his proposal to amend Ordinances #504, #525, #522, and #536, with a focus on the requirement for promulgation by the Clerk. Counsel explained that this promulgation is mandated by state law. He also introduced a draft **RESOLUTION SEEKING INJUNCTIVE RELIEF TO PREVENT THE LONGBRANCH RECOVERY CENTER FROM ALLOWING OCCUPANCY UNTIL IT IS CONNECTED TO THE ABITA SPRINGS SEWER SYSTEM.** Board members noted that the administration had followed proper procedures in allowing the Longbranch project to move forward. No formal action was taken.

Mr. Patterson opened discussion of Instrument 2025-09-001, **AN ORDINANCE BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION, TO APPROVE PHASE I OF THE ABITA SPRINGS MEADOWS PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) FINAL PLAT AND ASSOCIATED ZONING DISTRICT, LOCATED ON HIGHWAY 36, EAST OF HEBERT ROAD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY ORDINANCE NO. 485. THIS APPROVAL IS PURSUANT TO THE PUD FINAL APPROVAL PROCESS OUTLINED IN SECTIONS 9-803 AND 9-804 OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS CODE OF ORDINANCES (NOTWITHSTANDING THAT THESE SECTIONS HAVE SINCE BEEN REPEALED AND RESERVED, THEY REMAIN APPLICABLE TO THIS PUD UNDER THE TERMS OF THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT).** Instrument 2025-09-001 was introduced by Mr. Saussy, seconded by Ms. Contois.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

OPEN: Mr. Saussy expressed concern over recent negative comments made by residents on social media. He stated that such posts are counterproductive and do not contribute to constructive dialogue or the progress of the Town.

Mr. Saussy moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Contois. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted this 9th day of September 2025.

Leanne Schaefer, Town Clerk

Honorable Daniel J. Curtis, Mayor