



These minutes are from the Town of Abita Springs Public Committee Meetings on February 4, 2020.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Ms. Contois moved to open the Finance Committee Meeting and accept the January 2020 minutes, seconded by Mr. Murphy. 1.) Jay Hawkins presented the December 2019 Financial report and summarized points related to utilities including information regarding the replacement of water meters and aging water line infrastructure. 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 January 2020 minutes, seconded by Mr. Murphy. Mr. Patterson addressed Committee Chairman Mr. Saussy and requested that he move to open the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Saussy made a motion to open the Committee of the Whole, seconded by Mr. Murphy. Both were in favor. 1.) Mr. Saussy opened discussion 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. Each member of the Board spoke, with Ms. Contois and Ms. Randolph asserting that it had not been established that the right-of-way in fact had no useful public purpose. Mr. Patterson made a motion to move the Instrument forward with an unfavorable recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Contois. The vote was: Yeas:5, Aldermen Contois, Murphy, Patterson, Randolph, and Saussy. Nays:0, Abstain:0, Absent:0. 2.) Mr. Saussy opened discussion 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. Ms. Contois recognized the petitioners' long-standing relationships with the community but went on to say that she felt it would be irresponsible to move forward to revoke the Pine St. right-of-way. Responding to the call for public comment Ron Blich noted that any right-of-way revocation review should be approached with consistency. Mr. Patterson acknowledged that the petitioner's buildings encumber the right-of way but that presently he could not support approval of the revocation. Mr. Patterson made a motion to move Instrument 2020-003 unfavorably to the Council, seconded by Ms. Contois. The vote was: Yeas:5, Aldermen Contois, Murphy, Patterson, Randolph, and Saussy. Nays:0, Abstain:0, Absent:0. 3.) Mr. Saussy opened discussion of Instrument 2020-004 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ZONING & ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN LAND LOCATED AT 23425 HWY. 435 INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS, LOUISIANA AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS. It was noted that the Planning and Zoning Commissions recommended the annexation with a Residential Commercial Overlay Zoning Classification. Mr. Saussy made a motion to favorably recommend the Instrument to the Council with an amended zoning classification of Residential Commercial Overlay, seconded by Ms. Contois. The vote was: Yeas:5, Aldermen Contois, Murphy, Patterson, Randolph, and Saussy. Nays:0, Abstain:0, Absent:0. 4.) Mayor Curtis explained to the Committees that the recent revocation request raised procedural questions. The Mayor suggested that after a favorable recommendation by the Planning Commission but prior to the introduction of an ordinance and ordering of a survey and appraisal a discussion of the Committee of the Whole should take place. The Committees expressed support of an ordinance review. Mr. Saussy requested that staff work with Mr. Deano to create an instrument to amend sections 9-127 through 9-134 of the Code of Ordinances, seconded by Mr. Patterson. All 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 January 2020 minutes, seconded by Mr. Saussy. With no new business to discuss, Mr. Patterson moved to close the meeting, seconded by Mr. Saussy.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Ms. Randolph moved to open the Economic Development Committee Meeting and to accept the January 2020 minutes, seconded by Ms. Contois. Ms. Randolph stated that she and Ms.

Contois have been researching information related to the development of Fontainebleau State Park and drafting of a resolution communicating the will of the Board regarding this matter. Both Ms. Contois and Ms. Randolph expressed concern regarding the type of project proposed by those interested in development of the park. The Alderwomen made it clear that their position was not one of opposition to any development, but that their support of any project must be predicated by keeping with the Louisiana Parks Department's mission of preservation and protection of the park's natural resources. Mr. Murphy informed the Committee that it was his understanding that the project had been abandoned and that if anything was to be drafted, a letter might be more appropriate. Local residents encourage the Committee to move forward with a resolution. Ms. Randolph moved to close the meeting, seconded by Ms. Contois.

Local resident Dan Underwood addressed the Board and requested that the moratorium related to Brook Forest be extended. Mr. Saussy asked staff to place the item on the Town Council Meeting agenda.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 4th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2020.

Janet Dufrene, Town Clerk

Daniel J. Curtis, Mayor