

## REGULAR MEETING

August 10, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Jennings City Council was convened on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Jennings City Council Chambers, 154 N. Main Street, Jennings, Louisiana with President Stephen VanHook and a quorum present.

Jennings City Council Members present: Carolyn Simon, District A; Johnny Armentor, District B; Clifton LeJeune, District C; Anthony LeBlanc, District D; Stephen VanHook, District E

Jennings City Council Members Absent: None

The Prayer was led by Mr. LeJeune and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Armentor.

After a public comment and discussion of the open meetings law concerning attachment of exhibit items to the minutes, it was moved by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Armentor and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the July 13, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Ordinance No. 1775 – an ordinance to implement a stop sign at each point of the intersection of Myers Road and Myers Road Lift Station Right of Way, Jennings, Louisiana; and repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith. It was motioned by Ms. Simon and seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to adopt Ordinance No. 1775. Mayor Henry Guinn stated that there was an expansion of a trailer park in this area and a cut across for vehicles. The data captured by the radar trailer suggests that stop signs should be installed. After no questions or comments, it was carried by unanimous yeas of roll call voice vote of those in attendance to **ADOPT** Ordinance No. 1775.

Yeas: Johnny Armentor, Anthony LeBlanc, Clifton LeJeune, Carolyn Simon & Stephen VanHook

Nays: None            Absent: None            Abstained: None

Mr. Armentor motioned and Mr. LeBlanc seconded to discuss whether to approve and confirm a beer (low alcohol content) permit to Terrence Gallagher Jr., Daniel Gallagher & Benjamin Chaney Jr, / Shawna Landry, Manager (The Cigarette Store) - d/b/a *Smoke ' N Go #408* for retail sales – Class B – no drinking on premises – located at 1123 North Lake Arthur Avenue. Mayor Guinn stated that the manager came into City Hall to change ownership and the paperwork was in order with a clear background check. After no other comment or discussion, it was carried by yeas of voice vote to **approve and confirm** the beer permit to *Smoke ' N Go #408* for retail sales – Class B – no drinking on premises – located at 1123 North Lake Arthur Avenue.

Yeas: Johnny Armentor, Anthony LeBlanc, Carolyn Simon & Stephen VanHook

Abstained: Clifton LeJeune

It was motioned by Ms. Simon, seconded by Mr. LeJeune to discuss the demo and cleanup of the home at 3006 Wilbert D. Rochelle Avenue belonging to Shelly Lewis. The structure has been declared unsafe and in need of condemnation. Mayor Guinn stated that this property was condemned by the council and set to be demolished when the property was acquired at a tax sale and the new owner requested more time to save and restore the home. Since then, the home has been redeemed by the original owner, but nothing has been done at the home for months. After no other comments or discussion, it was motioned by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of

voice vote of those in attendance to **REFER** this property to the mayor's office for demo and cleanup.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeJeune to discuss the demo and cleanup of the home at 611 Ledoux Street belonging to Spencer Sanders. The structure has been declared unsafe and in need of condemnation. Mr. Sanders reported to the council that he has spent many hours working on the home and will continue to do so if the council will give him time. After discussion and no other comments, it was motioned by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **REFER** this property to the mayor's office for continued follow up of the progress of this property.

It was motioned by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Armentor to discuss the demo and cleanup of the home at 615 South Main Street belonging to Cynthia Thomas. The structure has been declared unsafe and in need of condemnation. Mayor Guinn stated that part of this home had burned down and was unoccupied. Ms. Thomas stated that she was trying to take down the home, but it was slow. She asked for more time to continue to take down the house and salvage what she could. Mayor Guinn stated that she needs to get a roll off box to put construction debris and for her to pick up all the debris on the sidewalk in front of the home which was a hazard. After more discussion and no other comments, it was motioned by Mr. LeBlanc, seconded by Ms. Simon and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **REFER** this property to the mayor's office for continued monitoring of the demolition and cleanup.

It was motioned by Mr. Armentor, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to discuss the demo and cleanup of the building at 203 South Louise Street belonging to *Louisiana Guest House, Inc. / Acadiana C.A.R.E.S., Inc.* The structure has been declared unsafe and in need of condemnation. Mayor Guinn stated that back in 2017 this same item was on the agenda. Claude Martin CEO of *Acadiana CARES* stated that in 2017 they did apply for grant funding which was denied and they are now applying for funding again. They originally were going to use the facility for a substance abuse treatment facility, but that failed. Mayor Guinn stated that large vacant buildings in the city have an impact on our fire rating and everyone's insurance rates. There was more discussion concerning *Acadiana CARES'* mission statement and the intent of the purpose of the building to receive grant funding. After no other comments, it was motioned by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc and carried by unanimous yeas of voice vote of those in attendance to **REFER** this property to the mayor's office for continued monitoring of the demo and cleanup.

With no further business on the agenda, it was moved by Mr. LeJeune, seconded by Mr. Armentor and carried by unanimous yeas voice vote of those in attendance to ADJOURN this Regular Meeting on August 10, 2021 of the Jennings City Council at 6:14 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Barbara Lantz

Barbara Lantz, Secretary  
Jennings City Council

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Stephen VanHook, President  
Jennings City Council