

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF
THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 20TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2022

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Regular Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Atkins, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). ABSENT: Commissioner Gage-Watts (1).

The invocation was given by Mr. Lazarus, and Mr. Cawthorne led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Rebecca Pharr came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

I live in a rural unincorporated area. I have talked with a couple of you Commissioners personally. I have emailed all of you. I have gotten two or three responses, which I really, really appreciate; and, I just wanted to first say that I appreciate all of you for taking on this task and trying to serve the constituents of your district. We really appreciate your work. On top of that, I feel that some of you are fairly new Commissioners and so you're going to have quite a task at hand trying to possibly change or fix some of these things that other Commissioners have done in the past that I do not feel is to the benefit of all of your constituents. Because I live in a rural unincorporated area, I am absolutely opposed to the Master Plan adoption, the Unified Development Code adoption and also having anything to do with the Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Commission. I understand that it used to be Shreveport-Caddo and it has changed now to just Shreveport, if I understand correctly. And I'm really hoping that we can come to a resolution that will benefit all of us rural residents. I understand that there needs to be certain land use and zoning restrictions, guidelines, ordinances, things of that nature. I live in a residential agriculture zoned area and, of course, I want it to remain that way. I do not want, you know, some commercial or industrial development right down the street from me. So, I understand we have to have something, but I'm just really hoping, and praying, that we can come to a reasonable solution that will be a compromise for everyone. And put together a board that will, you know, just look out for everyone. And we can all have a peaceful resolution. Thank you.

Paul Pratt came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

I rise again, today, regarding Resolution 84 to ask that, respectfully ask that, you scrap this particular resolution or remand it back to the Natural Resources Committee. This is a very restrictive resolution and it sends the wrong message to the operators that are willing to come and invest in our community. Everything that we see here in this resolution falls under the purview of the Department of Natural Resources. That's why this resolution is really not needed. The best thing for us to do is to sit in the room alone with the operators as well as the Department of Natural Resources and Offices of Conservation and work out a plan, because this is a partnership. Not only a partnership between the Commission but partnership between the landowners also. Again this is very restrictive. It's probably some of the most restrictive in the nation. Operators have the opportunity to go other places. The Haynesville Shale has looked at over a million acres of natural resources, right here in Louisiana and East Texas, and so, when companies are putting their money out or their capital outlay, they go to areas that government agencies, as well as Department of Natural Resources, are willing to work with them. Not put further restrictions on themselves. Again, I ask that you return this to the Natural Resource Committee for more work and let's work on it together. My promise to you, I get the operators in the room if you're willing to sit down and work with us. Because no one wants to make our citizens sick or have to deal with noise. Another very restrictive thing is nighttime fracking. The elimination of it. What it does it prolongs the noise. It's usually a 10-day process but if a company has to take their pipe out every night that goes to the cost as well as safety issues. So, again no body wants to hurt or harm our environment or our land owners. So, let's work together on making this a better document and right now I don't think we should send this to the Department of Natural Resources. So, thank you for your time.

Glen Moore came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

District number 12. Mr. Ken Epperson is our Commissioner. No disrespect to the gentleman that just spoke, but I think that the resolution 84 is not restrictive. I think it's a fair written resolution that will protect the residents in our communities, especially our health and the welfare of all that are concerned and close in proximity to these oil platforms that are being put into our communities. Now, I know in the past a lot of those platforms were put out in rural areas. But when you come into an urban area I feel that we need to have tighter restrictions, because we're dealing with people's health and our well-being and also our property values. And we don't want those depleted in our communities. And anytime you're around a lot of people, I think, that needs to be put into effect. So, once again, I would like to encourage all of the Commissioners to vote to pass this resolution so we can continue to debate it and come up with sensible rules and regulations that will allow the people in those, in our, communities to be able to exist. And we just don't want to have, you know, companies come in and feel that they can do whatever they want in our community. We live there. They don't. They'll come drill in your neighborhoods and after so many days or months they're gone. But we're still there. And we still have to deal with any

and all of the effects that fracking performed in our neighborhoods is going to leave behind. Especially we're very concerned about our well water. A few of my residents on my street they use their well water for drinking and we're very afraid it's going to get contaminated. And, also, all the trees that they removed and this well by the way is right behind my house. So, I'm very concerned. And all the trees that they remove, the wildlife has been dispersed. And it makes it very uneasy to be living in that community. So, once again, I just want to encourage all of the Commissioners please vote in favor of resolution 84. Thank you.

Shirley Pierson came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

I'm here to speak again on Resolution No. 11, which involves Ford Street. We're asking that you would approve Resolution No. 11, which would get the ball rolling to repair Ford Street. I won't be redundant and repeat everything that is wrong with the street. I'm sure that everybody would agree that it does need to be repaired. It affects numerous citizens of Shreveport that you represent. After listening to all of the speakers on Tuesday, I get it. I understand that there's a process that will involve the cooperation of the State, the Parish and the City. It as indeed stated that the bridge on Ford Street would not be a problem for the next 100 years. So, there's no need to talk about that in my opinion, and we know that the Parish won't be responsible for the lights and the sidewalks. So, there's no need to talk about that either, in my opinion. However, there is a need to talk about your responsibilities as a public servant to all of the citizens of Caddo Parish. This situation may not involve some of the people in the District that you represent, but that doesn't mean that you don't have a responsibility to make sure that you do your part and given a care about the other citizens in other districts and what's happening in their districts. So, your vote to approve this resolution is crucial to the improvement of the community that I live in, the Allendale community. So, we the people, the citizens of Caddo Parish, are putting our trust in you for be good stewards of your voting power. We know that the road wont be done overnight, but your vote today, hopefully, will help get it done sooner than later. Thank you for this opportunity.

Greg Oliver came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

Greg Oliver from the Mount Canaan Baptist Church. I served there as Pastor. It sits in the heart of Allendale. In 1666, Austin Street, which is adjacent to Ford Street, and I'm asking you to strongly consider approving Resolution No. 11. We have several , well we have maybe about 250, cars on Sunday morning that will attend our worship setting and then maybe about 50 on Wednesday nights. And then every day during the week, we'll have some others who'll come and their cars are needing to be repaired driving on that simple, simple road right there on Ford Street. And, I had a conversation that with a Parishioner before I came to Shreveport, I was in Monroe. And I want to remind you of this. And That Parishioner was willing not to vote for who we thought would have been the best person for the position. They were willing to vote for somebody else and this is the reason they said. This is from Monroe. They said, well we're voting for the other guy because one day during a storm he came out with his boots and helped clear the drain. They were regardless of the rest of their political agenda. This person was willing to vote for this person because they saw them come out and do something as simple as clear a drain. Now, imagine what that person might say about voting for one of you. If you do something about a complete street. Please consider that's a major thoroughfare as well. I think somebody said the other day about 6,000, that more than 6,000, cars a day-believe it or not-travel down Ford Street. That's a major thoroughfare to our City from 220. So, please consider that. That that's a smooth transition from 220 to downtown Shreveport. Thank you so very much for you time.

Roy Cary submitted the following comment:

Dear City Council and Caddo Parish Commission, We are asking the Caddo Parish Commission to sign the Right Sizing document so the process can start on the needed repairs to the Ford Street Highway. We need Resolution 11 to pass.

Dear Senator Tarver. I am sending this letter to relay the concern I have about Ford Street in Shreveport, LA; at the corner of Webster and Leroy. Driving down that street is like crossing a railroad track. There are potholes, broken pavement and all types of holes in the roadway. The bad stops have caused damage to many cars that to travel that way going to Mount Canaan Baptist Church in the Allendale Community. Will you please have someone to drive that way so they are completely aware of the concern that I am expressing. Please get this matter attended to ASAP. If you have any questions you can contact me using the information listed above. I over looked telling you on the last letter that the part of Ford street that runs in front of the Eddie Jones Center is very bad also. This road has some major damage. Please get this concern addressed for the citizens of Shreveport to travel this road.

Eve Goins submitted the following comment:

My name is Eve Goins, my address is 10013 Cristin Coats; Shreveport, LA 71118. I go to Church and is employed by Mount Canaan Baptist Church, and I have to travel down Ford Street at least 6 days a week.... twice on those days! Please approve Resolution #11. Thank You in Advance.

Linda Haynes submitted the following comment:

I travel these streets to get to the Lord's House. Please Help. Thank you.

Linda Pipkins-Taylor submitted the following comment:

Please approve Resolution 11, my name is Linda Pipkins-Taylor, my address is 2648 Circle Dr, Shreveport La 71107. My parents address is 235 Webster St and I travel down Ford St frequently. The street needs to be repaired.

Sheronda Brandon-Davis submitted the following comment:

Please approve this resolution. This street is in dire need of repairs.

Carrie W. Robinson, Pastor Greg L. Oliver, Priscilla Wade, Angenetta E. Long Lott, Christine Chism, Gail Bailey, Audrey Moore, Gloria Phillips, and Georgia Blow submitted the following comment:

Please approve Resolution #11.

Lenyatta Willis submitted the following comment:

I am a member of Mt. Canaan Baptist Church and I'm asking you to please approve Resolution #11. Thank you.

Joyce Dunn Lars submitted the following comment:

I am a member of Mount Canaan Baptist Church-1666 Ashton Street where I travel Ford Street on a weekly basis to get there. Ford Street is in serious need of repair. The bumps, holes and distorted leveling of this street is doing damage not only to my car, but others as well. I know Ford Street is a state highway and has not been worked on in 15 years. The state will not do anything until the City fixes the water line underneath. I am asking the Parish Commission to move forward in starting the negotiations that will hopefully lead to correcting this massive problem! Please, please approve Resolution #11.

Frances Powell submitted the following comment:

My name is Frances Powell and I grew up in Allendale just off of Ford Street on Perrin Street. I travel Ford street several times a week and have noticed how badly that road is in need of repair. As of lately, I drive on the opposite side of the road (barring traffic) to keep from tearing my vehicle up. This is unacceptable. There is no other area in town that I travel that is as bad as the section of Ford St. in question. I remember Greenwood Road (a State highway) was the same way, and it took FOREVER for the road to be repaired, but it finally got done. I am asking that you to approve Resolution #11, so that the ball can get rolling on fixing this street. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Jerry Maiden, Jr. submitted the following comment:

I am the Director of Music at the Mount Canaan Baptist. I travel on Ford street 4-5 days per week to arrive to the church that I serve. Needless to say, this road is and has been very hard on my vehicles. I am PLEADING that you would approve Resolution #11.

Glenda Grigsby submitted the following comment:

PLEASE APPROVE RESOLUTION #11. It would be an improvement to everyone who live in this area, attend church in this area and travel Ford Street on a daily basis. It is a State highway and in dire need of repairs.

Myra Robinson submitted the following comment:

To my fellow citizens of the Caddo Parish Commission - Good Afternoon. I have written to you today to prayerfully get your attention on the approval of Resolution #11. You should be very proud that you are in a position to make a difference in people's lives, to help solve problems in your community and consider the concerns of residents of Caddo Parish. Please listen carefully to my plea. I am extremely dissatisfied with the condition of Ford Street in the Allendale neighborhood. I don't live close to Ford Street, but I drive it weekly to church. The drive is horrible. I surely can't drive the speed limit and you'd think by now I would remember every torn up spot, but it seems to me I keep getting surprises. I am a senior citizen who does not like buying a new tire at the tune of \$200. plus dollars because it is punctured and can't be repaired. Approving Resolution #11 will prevent dysfunction and repair of damaged vehicles and make driving that stretch of highway safer. Commissioners, you have the power. Do it for the many citizens who travel Ford Street, A state highway to get to work, go downtown, get to church, and make it to their homes safely. We need you to approve Resolution #11.

Faith Johnson submitted the following comment:

This email is written to request the support of the Caddo Parish Commission by

approving Resolution #11. Ford Street, a state highway, has not been repaired in 15 years. It is imperative that the city of Shreveport fix the waterlines underneath Ford Street so the State will start the process of greater repair. I frequent this road on a weekly basis, two to three times per week, en route to participate in various church activities in the area. Ford Street is in deplorable condition and needs immediate attention. An effort to repair the street will show good faith on the part of the leadership of this city. The Allendale community and its citizens are more than deserving of an upgrade to Ford Street. Therefore, your commitment to the community by approving Resolution #11 is greatly appreciated.

Dorothy Williams submitted the following comment:

Ford Street needs to be repaired. It is unbelievable that it has taken as long as it has to be properly repaired and not patched up. Would you please help us get it repaved? It is a much needed task.

Clara Johnson submitted the following comment:

Please approve resolution #11. Yes, they really need to fix the streets in this area Bad need of repairs.

Lisa Robinson submitted the following comment:

I'm writing to ask you to approve Resolution #11. I travel down Ford Street to take my niece to Eddie Jones Head Start. Ford Street is in dire need for repair. Please drive down Ford Street to see for yourself.

Stephanie Dunn submitted the following comment:

I just moved to a community in Greenwood, Louisiana, and I would like to speak to you regarding the issue of fracking that is going on out here. It's affecting the neighborhoods and things of that nature. Is there anything in place to keep them from doing so? And if so, how can we address the current situation that is happening behind the subdivision.

VISITORS

- North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory

Mr. Atkins explained that the Commission asked to have a representative from the North LA Crime attend a meeting to discuss the large deficit in the budget.

Mr. Jesse Jones said that the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory serves the northern 29 parishes, but the headquarters is in Shreveport. Their revenue comes directly from court costs, but due to the pandemic and court cases not going to trial, their source of revenue has declined. He said that there is not a system to know what they'll actually be receiving because their "money directly just comes in the mail". They are looking for a long-term solution for the crime lab that is a different revenue stream for it.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know if the autopsies being performed are supplementing the budget. Mr. Jones said that autopsies are not occurring at the facility because of a contractual agreement between the Commission and LSU Health, which specifies that LSU has to provide the pathologist for us to operate. He also said that some cases are being shipped outside of the State. Mr. Jones also said that "you don't make a whole lot of money" on pathology services. Mr. Burrell wanted to know if the Crime Lab was still outsourcing the autopsies. Mr. Jones said that they were, but he is confident that this year, the first autopsy will be performed in the facility. He explained that if they are able to hire their own pathologists and perform autopsies, it will create a more sufficient revenue stream.

Mr. Burrell suggested creating a program to have some students intern at the facility. Mr. Jones agreed and said that they created an internship program last year and are hoping to build a relationship with Grambling University to bring more students on.

- Grace Project

Mr. Calvin Lester

Mr. Jackson

Mr. Young

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Regular Session Minutes from January 6, 2022 be adopted.* Motion carried.

COMMUNIQUES AND REPORTS

- Mr. Burrell provided a document that talks about the Omicron Variant of COVID. He said that this variant is spreading at an expeditious rate. He said that wastewater testing has been a tracking system for this variant in communities across the country.

He also asked that the Commissioners submit names for the Broadband Committee.

Mr. Burrell also talked about orphan wells. He asked that Administration invite someone to attend the meeting to discuss orphan wells. He also requested that Administration invite a representative from the Red River Waterway Commission.

- Mr. Jackson gave recognition to the MLK Day Giveaway. He said that Image Changers, MLK CDC, Craig Events, Principal Cook, Shreveport Fire Department, Councilwoman Taylor, and Representative Glover all partnered up to provide meal distribution during the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

Mr. Jackson then wanted to know if the meeting with the Home Builders Association and the Realtors Association has been set yet. Dr. Wilson said that they will set up the discussion. Mr. Hopkins wanted to know if this would be better suited in the Long Range Planning Committee. Mr. Jackson said that it can be set up as needed. He would also like to invite the Greater Shreveport Chamber, African American Chamber of Commerce, Manufactures Managers Council, and the Committee of 100 to that meeting.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if there was an update with regards to the issue he was having on Wells Island Road. Dr. Wilson said that they are still working on it. Mr. Jackson then wanted to know if the MPC is still required to attend the Commission meetings. Dr. Wilson said that he has a letter prepared for that during his Administration Report.

Mr. Jackson then talked about the Red River Waterway Commission. He asked that research be done for the Commission to pull out of the Red River Waterway Commission. He does not feel that Caddo Parish is getting their fair share.

- The Clerk of the Commission provided the Commissioners with a binder including a calendar, By-Laws, Charter, and other references.
- Mr. Epperson would like the system in the Chambers be upgraded.

Mr. Epperson also talked about Resolution No. 84 of 2021. He said that the Commission has heard from those persons who are advocates of the oil and gas industry, and he understands the economic impact of the gas industry. He is concerned with those residents who reside in a particular area who are negatively impacted by the oil and gas drilling. Mr. Epperson asked that the Commissioners review the links he shared regarding spills, leaks, accidents, and environmental issues. He also reiterated that a resolution is not law; it is only a formal request. This resolution is only asking the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Conservation, to look at the citizens' concerns with urban oil and gas drilling.

Mr. Epperson announced that there will be a \$100M investment located at the Resilient Industrial Park in District 12. The 77,000 square foot facility will be constructed by AEP/SWEPCO with 83 direct and indirect jobs.

He also commended Mr. Tim Weaver and Mr. Chuck Wilson for their hard work with property standards.

Mr. Epperson also talked about the situation with the MPC. He said that there were several meetings held in district regarding the discussion about the UDC prior to it being established.

- Mr. Taliaferro said that cold weather is moving into the area. He wanted to know what CPAS is doing to "get ahead of the curve". Mr. Kelvin Samuel, Assistant Director of Animal Services, said that blankets are always needed. He also suggested citizens honking their horn before starting it because TNR cats seek cars for heat. Mr. Samuel also said shelter is a must and to ensure that their shelter is off the ground.

- Mr. Johnson also commented that there are organizations who are setting up temporary tents to house and keep the homeless people warm. He asked anyone to donate propane heaters and blankets to keep the people warm.

- Mr. Chavez talked about the mobile security trailers. Dr. Wilson said that the security trailers are not eligible for ARP funds. Mr. Chavez wanted to know if the Doorbell Program will be able to use the ARP funds. Dr. Wilson said that it would need to be vetted, so he is not sure. Mr. Johnson

suggested that Mr. Chavez change the purpose of the trailers so it will be eligible for ARP funds.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Animal & Mosquito Drone

Dr. Wilson said that they did receive a drone to help with spraying in hard to reach areas. FAA will be here on January 17 through January 18 to train the employees on how to use and ensure they are following the regulations.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if Administration considers this a tool. Dr. Wilson said that it is, and it went before the Animal Services Committee who recommended that this be purchased.

Mr. Young asked that the drone not be used to kill plants, only mosquitos.

Mr. Epperson wanted to know if the drone could be used for other purposes such as taking photos. Dr. Wilson said that the drone could be used for several applications, but not as a tool for surveillance.

- Red River Waterway Commission

Dr. Wilson said that the Parish did receive \$300,000 a few years ago, and that was used to build a dog park next to the Stoner Boat Launch. He also mentioned that in prior years, the Parish not received any monies from the Red River Waterway Commission because it did not have land contiguous to the Red River.

- Planning & Zoning in the Parish

Dr. Wilson read aloud the following statement:

HB No. 697 removed Caddo Parish territory from the jurisdiction of the Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Commission of Caddo Parish. Essentially, it undid a "legislative CEA" between the Parish and City of Shreveport for zoning functions. That statute did not become effective until 1/1/2022. The effective date is important because the Parish no longer has the procedures and boards in place to handle zoning issues and matters for the Parish. For instance, pending zoning cases must still be completed as well as new cases considered. Additionally, the Parish's zoning ordinances were not repealed. All zoning ordinances are in place and affecting citizens right now. This includes everything from site plans to zoning violations to rezoning. Furthermore, a board must be in place to hear appeals and make decisions on certain issues That is why the 2021 ordinance creating the Caddo Parish Planning board was passed. Until it is populated and starts holding hearings, development in the parish is affected and zoning matters are at a standstill – even those that arose before the legislation became effective - are halted.

Dr. Wilson said that the Parish still has planning and zoning functions to do, and if citizens call with complaints, the Parish has to be able to respond. The reason the Parish still has a CEA with the MPC is so they can perform the functions as it relates to violation of the zoning ordinances that are currently on the books. Dr. Wilson said that he will provide a copy of this letter to all of the Commissioners. He also pointed out that all of the pending cases that the Parish has prior to January 1, 2022 have to be resolved.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know about the current members of the MPC board, especially the Parish's appointees. Dr. Wilson said that the City Council is contemplating the restructuring of the board to exclude the Parish's appointees.

Mr. Chavez asked for more clarification regarding the process for those who are currently in the zoning process. Dr. Wilson said that their concern is that there is not a mechanism to address those cases. He suggested appointing members to the rural board, make decisions on the pending cases, then determine a path forward.

Attorney Frazier pointed out that the Parish's contract is not with the MPC, but with the staff to assist the planning board that the Parish has not populated. She further stated that those pending cases cannot move forward until a board has been populated. Site plans, development, and rezoning is halted in Caddo Parish outside of the municipalities until that is completed. Parallel to this, there is an issue of whether or not the Caddo Parish Commission can act as the planning board, which is what is being asked in an AG opinion. She cautioned that this may take four to six weeks before a response is received. Attorney Frazier also mentioned that once the MPC staff sends out a violation, if it is appealed, there is nothing that can be done.

Dr. Wilson said that as long as the ordinances are on the books and are active, they have to be carried out as prescribed in the ordinance.

Mr. Chavez then wanted to know how the MPC staff is funded. Attorney Frazier said that payments are made quarterly.

Mr. Hopkins pointed out that the ordinances only cover that five mile radius. He reiterated that there is no zoning north of Hwy 173.

Mr. Epperson ask that Dr. Wilson provide the names of the pending zoning cases. Dr. Wilson said that Case 2021-8SP-7681, Shirley Francis Road, Consent Subdivision; Case 2136-P, Wells Island Road, rezoning; Case 2114-VAP-771, Greenwood Road, Testament Appeal; and Case 2115-VPA-3409, Eden Boulevard, fence variants.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if the Parish is contracting with the City of Shreveport's Inspection Department. Dr. Wilson said that it is for permitting parish-wide. Mr. Jackson said that the notion that the Parish is detaching from the City of Shreveport is not true.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if the MPC would be able to issue Cease & Desist Notices. Attorney Frazier said that they will send notices of violation. If it is not taken care of, the MPC will then bring the case to the Parish to transfer it to the District Attorney.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Atkins presented a plaque to former Commission President Johnson. He appreciates Mr. Johnson's leadership during 2021. Mr. Johnson thanked the Commissioners for the plaque. He said that there are several things that go on behind the scenes. He appreciates all of the Commissioners for all of their hard work and teamwork during his year as president.

Mr. Burrell commended Mr. Johnson on his leadership and taking the time to show him the ropes.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Jones, *that all items on the agenda, except for the public hearings, be delayed and postponed to a Special Session that will be called prior to the Commission meeting again for its Work Session.*

Mr. Epperson said that there are individuals here that cannot be present in today's meeting. He said that there are so many items on the agenda today that all members of the Commission should be able to participate in. Mr. Epperson also mentioned that there could be an act of God that prevents the Commission from meeting in person. He said that all items should be able to be voted on via teleconference.

Mr. Chavez asked that the Tim James Expressway be voted on today.

Substitute motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Young, *that the Commission consider Resolution No. 9 of 2022, a resolution authorizing the Parish Attorney's Office to request an opinion from the Louisiana State Attorney General's Office regarding the authority of the Parish Commission functioning as a Planning & Zoning Commission and otherwise providing with respect thereto be considered today.*

Mr. Atkins wants to be respectful to those items that may be controversial, but would like to move forward as many items as possible. He pointed out that there is only one person absent from today's meeting.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if the substitute motion was to postpone everything, with the exception of Resolution No. 9, and vote on that today. Mr. Hopkins said that it was.

Substitute motion by Mr. Chavez, seconded by Mr. Taliaferro, *that the Commission will consider Ordinance No. 6169 of 2022 following the public hearings.*

Mr. Chavez said that the economic impact with this ordinance is for the betterment of the whole Parish. He does not see the need to delay it.

Attorney Frazier pointed out that there are three motions on the floor: the original motion and two substitute motions. Mr. Jackson thought there can be unlimited substitute motions, but not amendments. Attorney Frazier said that there has been two amendments because substitute motions and amendments are interchangeable.

Mr. Young wanted to know if Mr. Chavez's motion is an amendment or a substitute motion. Mr. Chavez said that his motion is a substitute motion. It is Mr. Young's understanding that only two substitute motions could be had at one time.

At this time, Mr. Chavez's substitute motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young

(8). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Epperson, and Jackson (3). ABSENT: Commissioner Gage-Watts (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Resolution No. 84 of 2021 and Resolution No. 11 of 2022 be considered during today's Regular Session. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Gage-Watts (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

The President of the Commission opened the public hearing for the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 6155 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$5,000 to provide an additional appropriation for the Delta Upsilon Lambda Foundation and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6156 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$5,000 to provide an additional appropriation for the Dress for Success Shreveport-Bossier and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6157 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Public Works Fund and the Capital Outlay Fund in the amount of \$107,500 to provide an additional appropriation to install welcome signs on I-49 and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6158 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$5,000 to provide an appropriation for Friends In Unity and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6159 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$10,000 to reduce the appropriation for the Playaz & Playettes, Inc and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6160 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund for the year 2022 to provide an appropriation of \$109,000 to provide Caddo Fire District 7 with a part-time employee, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6161 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan fund to provide an appropriation of up to \$30,000 for Red G Enterprises and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6162 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for counseling in public high schools in Caddo Parish and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6163 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for Volunteers for Youth Justice for truancy and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6164 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for Caddo Parish Juvenile Court and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6165 of 2022 an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the E. Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund to provide an appropriation for ERAP housing quality inspections and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6166 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the E. Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund to roll over an existing 2021 appropriation for Eviction Mitigation into the 2022 Budget*

and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

- *Ordinance No. 6169 of 2022, an ordinance approving a cooperative endeavor agreement with Tim James, Inc. relative to construction of a privately-owned tollway over the Red River pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 48:2037, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

Attorney Bradford came before the Commission to speak in favor of Ordinance No. 6169 of 2022. He said that Tim James, Inc. is a family owned business that is investing \$100M in Caddo Parish. Attorney Bradford said that this will help Caddo Parish grow forward.

Tim James, Jr. said that this is the last stop to move forward with this project. He said that they have approval from Bossier, and he would like the Parish to approve this ordinance.

- *Ordinance No. 6170 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund for the year 2022 to provide an appropriation for relocation assistance and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6171 of 2022, an ordinance amending the 2022 Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an additional appropriation for Fit for Life Ministries and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6172 of 2022, an ordinance amending the 2022 Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the E. Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund to provide appropriations for housing projects and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

There being no one to speak in favor or against these ordinances, the President closed the public hearing for ordinances.

ORDINANCES (for final passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Ordinance No. 6169 of 2022, an ordinance approving a cooperative endeavor agreement with Tim James, Inc. relative to construction of a privately-owned tollway over the Red River pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 48:2037, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Young wanted to know where the BBB rating for the road maintenance came from. Attorney Bernstein explained that bond rating is still a high bond rating, but if the bond rating is higher, it will narrow the number of companies they can obtain it from. He further explained that BBB+ means that it is either at the top of the BBB rating or it is an A or better rating. Mr. Young wanted to know if this exposes the Parish to any additional risks. Attorney Bernstein said that it does not.

Mr. Young then asked about the clause regarding Minority & Disadvantaged Business Enterprise standards. Dr. Wilson said that it is the Parish's goal to reach 25% of Disadvantaged & Emerging Businesses. He also said that it is a goal, but it is not a mandatory compliance. Mr. Young wanted to know if the agreement would be breached if the goal is not met. Dr. Wilson said that it would not because it is a goal, not a mandatory compliance item.

Substitute motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to englobo and adopt the following items:*

- *Ordinance No. 6169 of 2022, an ordinance approving a cooperative endeavor agreement with Tim James, Inc. relative to construction of a privately-owned tollway over the Red River pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 48:2037, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 84 of 2021, urge and request the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources to consider the negative impacts of oil and gas drilling in or near urban areas, implement rules to combat those negative impacts, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 9 of 2022, a resolution authorizing the Parish Attorney's Office to request an opinion from the Louisiana State Attorney General's Office regarding the authority of the Parish Commission functioning as a Planning & Zoning Commission and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 11 of 2022, a resolution urging and requesting the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development to consider the inclusion of Louisiana Highway 173, from Pierre Avenue to Hartman Street, in its Right-Sizing*

Program, and otherwise providing with respect thereto

Friendly amendment by Mr. Young *that the amended version that is attached to the agenda be adopted. Mr. Jackson accepted it.*

Substitute motion by Mr. Chavez, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *to consider the vote Ordinance No. 6169 of 2022 separately and as the next item. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: Commissioners Epperson, Jackson, and Johnson (3). ABSENT: Commissioner Gage-Watts (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).*

Substitute motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to englobo and adopt the following items:*

- *Ordinance No. 6169 of 2022, an ordinance approving a cooperative endeavor agreement with Tim James, Inc. relative to construction of a privately-owned tollway over the Red River pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 48:2037, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 84 of 2021, urge and request the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources to consider the negative impacts of oil and gas drilling in or near urban areas, implement rules to combat those negative impacts, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 9 of 2022, a resolution authorizing the Parish Attorney's Office to request an opinion from the Louisiana State Attorney General's Office regarding the authority of the Parish Commission functioning as a Planning & Zoning Commission and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 11 of 2022, a resolution urging and requesting the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development to consider the inclusion of Louisiana Highway 173, from Pierre Avenue to Hartman Street, in its Right-Sizing Program, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Kay Proby Waller to the Caddo Parish Zoning Commission*

Mr. Atkins said that this is "really gumming up the works". He encouraged the Commissioners to vote against this englobo.

Substitute motion by Mr. Chavez, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that Ordinance No. 6169 of 2022, an ordinance approving a cooperative endeavor agreement with Tim James, Inc. relative to construction of a privately-owned tollway over the Red River pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 48:2037, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be adopted.*

Call for the Question by Mr. Lazarus, seconded by Mr. Young. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Hopkins (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Chavez's substitute motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: Commissioners Epperson and Jackson (2). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Hopkins (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 6169 OF 2021

ORDINANCES (For Introduction By Title):

- *Introduce Ordinance No. 6174 of 2022, an ordinance amending the 2021 Budget to amend the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Head Start Fund and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Introduce Ordinance No. 6175 of 2022, an ordinance amending the 2021 Budget to amend the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Section 8 Fund and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Introduce Ordinance No. 6176 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the General Fund to provide an appropriation for Wheel Chair Ramp & Roof Repair Program and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

- *Introduce Ordinance No. 6177 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund and the Riverboat Fund to provide an appropriation of \$32,000 for a Mural Program and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Introduce Ordinance No. 6186 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the E. Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund for the year 2022 to appropriate funds received from the U.S. Treasury in the amount of \$5,274,675 for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Introduce Ordinance No. 6187 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the E. Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund for the year 2021 to appropriate Emergency Rental Assistance Program from the State of Louisiana and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Introduce Ordinance No. 6188 of 2022, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for Ring Doorbell Pilot Program in Caddo Parish and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Introduce Ordinance No. 6189 of 2022, an ordinance to enact Section 2-5 relative to parish owned or maintained buildings and offices, to provide that agencies, constitutional officers, or other political subdivisions occupying those buildings and offices shall report data regarding communicable diseases of concern to the public and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.*

WORK SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr.** , seconded by Mr. , *that Work Session Minutes from January 18, 2022 be ratified. Motion carried.*

RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Resolution No. 84 of 2021, urge and request the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources to consider the negative impacts of oil and gas drilling in or near urban areas, implement rules to combat those negative impacts, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be adopted as amended.*

Mr. Young said that several citizens came forward regarding concerns with horizontal drilling in and near urban areas.

Substitute motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to englobo and adopt the following items:*

- *Ordinance No. 6169 of 2022, an ordinance approving a cooperative endeavor agreement with Tim James, Inc. relative to construction of a privately-owned tollway over the Red River pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 48:2037, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 84 of 2021, urge and request the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources to consider the negative impacts of oil and gas drilling in or near urban areas, implement rules to combat those negative impacts, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 9 of 2022, a resolution authorizing the Parish Attorney's Office to request an opinion from the Louisiana State Attorney General's Office regarding the authority of the Parish Commission functioning as a Planning & Zoning Commission and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 11 of 2022, a resolution urging and requesting the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development to consider the inclusion of Louisiana Highway 173, from Pierre Avenue to Hartman Street, in its Right-Sizing Program, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*

Call for the Question by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Jackson. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (9). NAYS: Commissioner Atkins (1). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Hopkins (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES:

Commissioners Burrell, Epperson, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, and Yong (6). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Lazarus, and Taliaferro (4). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Hopkins (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Resolution No. 84 of 2021, urge and request the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources to consider the negative impacts of oil and gas drilling in or near urban areas, implement rules to combat those negative impacts, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted as amended.

Mr. Atkins understands the concerns of the citizens, but would like to see the oil and gas industry to continue to operate in this community in a safe and effective matter.

At this time, Mr. Young's motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Epperson, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, and Yong (6). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Lazarus, and Taliaferro (4). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Hopkins (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Resolution No. 9 of 2022, a resolution authorizing the Parish Attorney's Office to request an opinion from the Louisiana State Attorney General's Office regarding the authority of the Parish Commission functioning as a Planning & Zoning Commission and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Hopkins (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Resolution No. 11 of 2022, a resolution urging and requesting the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development to consider the inclusion of Louisiana Highway 173, from Pierre Avenue to Hartman Street, in its Right-Sizing Program, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Chavez said that the road is in the City of Shreveport, and the City would need to assume it if they felt it necessary. He understands the complaints of the citizens and the need for better roads. Mr. Chavez then wanted to know if the Parish has ever adopted a state highway that was in the City of Shreveport. Dr. Wilson said that they swapped the road directly in front of the detention center with the State. He suggested that the City fix the issues under the road, so the Parish can overlay it.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know about the letter that Mr. Chavez was speaking about. Dr. Wilson said that the letter was addressed to him, but the content of the letter was sent to the entire board.

Substitute motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Resolution No. 11 of 2022, a resolution urging and requesting the Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development to consider the inclusion of Louisiana Highway 173, from Pierre Avenue to Hartman Street, in its Right-Sizing Program, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be postponed until the next Regular Session.

Call for the Question by Mr. Epperson, seconded by Mr. Chavez. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Hopkins (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Jones' substitute motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Hopkins (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

There was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.


Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk


John E. Atkins
President