

MINUTES
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
VIVIAN TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM
112 W. ALABAMA AVE.
VIVIAN, LOUISIANA
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025
6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Festavan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION - Alderman Samuel Hodge opened the meeting in prayer.

PLEDGE - Mayor Festavan led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL - VERIFICATION OF QUORUM - Board of Aldermen present for Roll Call were James Martin, Denise Alexander, Samuel Hodge, and Robert Green, Jr.; absent was Raymond Williams. Following Roll Call the Town Clerk verified that a quorum was present.

Also present were other elected officials and/or staff members: Mayor Ronnie Festavan, Deputy Police Chief Perry Hart, Town Clerk Kellie Morris and Town Attorney Douglas Dominick.

APPROVE AGENDA - Motion to approve the Agenda as presented was made by Robert Green, Jr., seconded by Samuel Hodge; all present approved.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Mr. LaCaze of Vivian was present to voice his concern of trash being strowed in Town and the apparent lack of enforcement of our trash Ordinances.

2. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - Financial report including budget-to-actual comparisons was presented by Mayor Festavan. Following the report and discussion, a motion to accept as presented was made by Samuel Hodge, seconded by James Martin; all present approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Motion to approve the Minutes for the January 13, 2025 Regular Town Council Meeting was made by James Martin, seconded by Samuel Hodge; all present approved.

4. THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN WILL CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION # 1 OF 2025 OF THE TOWN OF VIVIAN, LOUISIANA - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE LOUISIANA GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LGAP) PROGRAM.

Motion to adopt Resolution # 1 of 2025 was made by Robert Green, Jr., seconded by Samuel Hodge; all present approved.

5. THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN WILL CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION # 2 OF 2025 OF THE TOWN OF VIVIAN, LOUISIANA - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE COMMUNITY WATER ENRICHMENT FUND (CWEF) PROGRAM.

Motion to adopt Resolution # 2 of 2025 was made by Samuel Hodge, seconded by James Martin; all present approved.

6. THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN WILL CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION # 3 OF 2025 OF THE TOWN OF VIVIAN, LOUISIANA - A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION ESTABLISH AN ANIMAL CONTROL SUBSTATION IN THE TOWN.

Motion to adopt Resolution # 3 of 2025 was made by Samuel Hodge, seconded by Robert Green, Jr.; all present approved.

7. RE-HIRING OF POLICE PERSONNEL - THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN WILL CONSIDER THE CHIEF OF POLICE'S RECOMMENDATION TO RE-HIRE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL(S) FOR THE VIVIAN POLICE DEPARTMENT: Sabrina Eddins - Part-time Officer - \$14.00 per hour.

Deputy Police Chief Perry Hart, present in Chief Nelson's absence, introduced Ms. Eddins. He then communicated Chief Nelson's recommendation that Ms. Eddins be re-hired as a Part-time Officer.

Following the recommendation, motion was made to re-hire Ms. Eddins by Robert Green, Jr., seconded by Samuel Hodge; all present approved.

❖ **ZONING & CONDEMNATION MATTERS - Officer Bobby Smith**

A. ZONING VARIANCE HEARING(s) -

Case # 634 – 1036 S. Pine St. – Krystal Humphries - No one was present on behalf of this case. Following comments from Officer Smith, motion to reschedule this matter at the March 10, 2025 Regular Council Meeting was made by Samuel Hodge, seconded by James Martin; all present approved.

Case # 636 – 1110 N. Pine St. – Patricia Bethany - Mrs. Bethany, property owner, was present on behalf of this case. Following a report by Officer Smith, questions, answers and discussion, motion to approve the variance was made by Samuel Hodge, seconded by Robert Green, Jr.; all present approved.

B. ZONING/CONDEMNATION REPORT - Officer Smith's written and oral report to the Council included the following addresses:

1) 308 W. Moore St. - Robert Kovacs was present on behalf of this property. Following Officer Smith's report concerning improvements made, questions, answers and discussion, motion was made to continue at the May 12, 2025 Regular Council Meeting by James Martin, seconded by Samuel Hodge; all present approved.

2) 102 Camp Rd. - No one was present on behalf of this property. Following Officer Smith's report concerning improvements made, he recommended that this property be removed from the Condemnation List. Following his recommendation, motion to remove the address from the List was made by Samuel Hodge, seconded by James Martin; all present approved. *(It was later discovered that this property was previously removed from the List at the November 13, 2023 Regular Council Meeting.)*

The Mayor also reported on the upcoming condemnations of 602 & 606 N. Pine St.

C. REPORT BY TOWN ATTORNEY ON ZONING LAWS & REGULATIONS - Town Attorney Dominick presented the Council with zoning maps and an opinion report concerning the current zoning laws & regulations, citing other municipality's regulations, and suggested that change(s) could be made to the current laws as they relate to the downtown business district. Further consideration will be given to this matter.

❖ **CODE ENFORCEMENT MATTERS - Officer Johnnie Hough**

A. CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT - CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT - Officer Hough gave the following written and oral report: 32 (thirty-two) properties, 9 (nine) new cases opened, 5 (five) cases closed, and 1 (one) new case and 2 (two) cases for review would be heard in Environmental Court on Wednesday, February 19th. Discussion was also held on **1)** a property on N. Walnut St. and **2)** the burned home/apartment house at the corner of N. Spruce St. and W. Alabama Ave.

MAYOR'S REPORT - Mayor Festavan gave a report on the following: **1)** a Health Fair sponsored by Caddo Parish Parks would be held the morning of Thursday, February 27th at Legion Hills Community Center, and **2)** the upcoming Black History Parade and Redbud Festival.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY BOARD OF ALDERMEN - There were none.

ADJOURN - Motion to adjourn was made by Samuel Hodge, seconded by Denise Alexander; all present approved. Meeting was adjourned at 7:09, p.m.