



The following minutes were taken at the regular meeting of the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen at 6pm on May 7, 2024, at the Town Hall in Abita Springs, Louisiana. Mayor Curtis called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Curtis invited Mr. Boudreaux to open discussion of **An Ordinance of the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Abita Springs to Amend the 2024 Budget (Instrument 2023-005, Section IV, Lines 21 to 24.)** He requested that Mr. Saussy present information from the financial report to clarify the need and intent of the ordinance. Mr. Templet expressed concern that the instrument, with suggested amendments, appears to create a conflict with the open meetings law. The Board agreed to amend the ordinance as follows: “The mayor may authorize transfers between line items of expenditures within the function or department, provided that such transfers shall not exceed 5% of the total department budget. Budget adjustments exceeding 5% of the total department budget shall only be authorized by the Mayor and the Council.” Mr. Patterson moved to close the Public Hearing portion of the meeting, seconded by Ms. Contois. All were in favor.

MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Templet read aloud a letter addressed to Sheriff Randy Smith. The subject of the letter involved speeding in the Town of Abita Springs. Mr. Templet thanked the Sheriff for his prior support and requested that special attention be given to traffic enforcement on Main and Level Streets. The Town Marshal gave his report of incidents, including citations and areas of concern. Discussion related to improper routing of 18 wheelers through a residential neighborhood resulted in a suggestion to add signage designating the street as a “No Truck Route.”

ROLL CALL: Council Members Boudreaux, Contois, Patterson, Saussy, and Templet were present. Mr. Patterson moved to accept the April 2, 2024, meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Contois. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Saussy made a motion to amend **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS TO AMEND THE 2024 BUDGET (INSTRUMENT 2023-005, SECTION IV, LINES 21 TO 24)** seconded by Mr. Boudreaux. The vote was: YEAS: 4, Aldermen Boudreaux, Contois, Saussy, and Templet, NAYS: 1, Alderman Patterson, ABSENT: 0, ABSTAIN: 0. Alderman Saussy made a motion to adopt Instrument 2024-003, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS TO AMEND ORDINANCE #540 RELATIVE TO THE MAYOR’S AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS**, seconded by Alderman Boudreaux. The vote was: YEAS: 4, Aldermen Boudreaux, Contois, Saussy, and Templet, NAYS: 1, Alderman Patterson, ABSENT:0 ABSTAIN:0.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Curtis offered **INSTRUMENT 2024-004 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF ABITA SPRINGS TO EXTEND AND ESTABLISH A TIME PERIOD FOR THE MORATORIUM ON THE ZONING OF ANY NEW LANDS AS PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT; AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS** for introduction. The Mayor advised that the extension of the moratorium was recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Patterson made a motion to introduce the instrument, seconded by Mr. Templet.

OPEN/ADJOURNMENT: Keep Abita Beautiful President, Sandra Slifer reported on organization activities. Stewart Eastman requested that the town refrain from using acronyms in its reporting. Local resident, Jay Hawkins made public comment regarding the Mayor’s reference to the outside financial consultant in his letter to residents in the recent publication of the Live Oak Journal.

Mr. Saussy moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Contois. All were in favor.

MEETING ADJOURNED

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 7TH DAY OF MAY 2024.

Janet Dufrene, Town Clerk

Honorable Daniel J. Curtis, Mayor