

APRIL 10, 2007  
VILLE PLATTE CITY COUNCIL  
VILLE PLATTE, LOUISIANA

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ville Platte, Louisiana met in regular meeting at the Ville Platte City Hall at 126 East Main Street, Ville Platte, Louisiana on April 10, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

There were present: Mayor Bill Jeanmard, Alderwoman Carol Alfred, Aldermen Taranza Arvie, C.J. Dardeau, Freddie Jack, Mike Perron, Donald Sam, City Clerk Shelley Fruge, Administrative Assistant Rita Jack and City Attorney Eric LaFleur.

There was absent: None.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ville Platte were duly convened as the governing authority of the City of Ville Platte by Mayor who announced that the Board was ready for transaction of business.

It was moved by Alderman Jack, seconded by Alderwoman Alfred to approve the minutes of March 13, 2007.

Motion Carried.

Alderman Taranza Arvie introduced the Utility Franchise Renewal Ordinance. The public hearing for said ordinance will be on May 8, 2007 at 5:45 p.m.

It was moved by Alderman Perron and seconded by Alderman Dardeau to approve the following ordinance:

**PUBLIC HEARING – 5:30 P.M. – NORTHSIDE PARK PROPERTY LEASE  
PUBLIC HEARING – 5:30 P.M. – SALE OF CITY PROPERTY**

**ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VILLE PLATTE REGARDING LEASE OF CITY OWNED  
PROPERTY, NAMELY “CITY BALL PARK PROPERTY”**

An Ordinance proposing the approval of terms and conditions of the lease of portions of immovable property owned by the City of Ville Platte in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:4712, namely the “City Ball Park Property” described in more detail as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen have reviewed the park and immovable property needs of the city of Ville Platte and that property known as the “City Ball Parks” consisting of approximately 10 acres of land and other improvements located therein and described in more detail as follows:

A certain parcel of ground, together with all buildings and improvements thereon and thereto appertaining, located in the Town of Ville Platte, Evangeline Parish, Louisiana, and being described as that set of structures and buildings known as the City Ball Park consisting of approximately 10 acres, T-4-S, R-2-E, fronting on Lincoln Road.

and in the opinion of this governing authority it is not needed necessarily for public purposes at this time except for recreational purposes and that those needs would be best met with an appropriate lease and cooperative endeavor agreement with parties who can provide appropriate financial attention and management and care of the facilities.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen have reviewed the needs of the city to provide recreational opportunities for the citizens of Ville Platte and find that city organized girls and boys baseball programs catering to the needs all children of all ages would be best suited to provide those recreational opportunities, namely, through Ville Platte Youth Incorporated.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen also agree that the Ville Platte Youth Incorporated can enhance and improve the economic well being of the city with its youth programs and organized competition that can attract visitors from outside of the city, parish and state.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen agree that it would serve a public purpose for the baseball park facilities to be leased to the Ville Platte Youth Incorporate, a not for profit corporation, at a nominal fee with

certain terms and conditions including their agreement to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement in which they would valuable recreational activities and services to the youth of the City of Ville Platte and to make improvements upon and preserve certain assets of the city.

**WHEREAS**, it is now the desire of this City Council to approve said lease as outlined herein with such terms and conditions as the Mayor sees fit with consultation of the City Attorney and in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:4712;

**WHEREAS**, it is now the desire of this City's Board of Aldermen to approve said lease as outlined herein and in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:4712;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Ville Platte, State of Louisiana, in legal and regular and/or special session, acting as the "Governing Authority" of said City, after a public hearing with legal notice, lease city property in accordance with the terms of this ordinance.

The final adoption of the foregoing ordinance having been duly moved and seconded, the roll was called and the following vote was taken and recorded:

YEAS: Dardeau, Sam, Alfred, Arvie, Perron and Jack

NAYS:

ABSENT:

There being a favorable vote on the ordinance of at least a majority of the authorized members of the Governing Authority, the ordinance was declared adopted on this the **10th** day of **April, 2007**.

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Shelley Frugé, Clerk

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William "Bill" Jeanmard, Mayor

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Alderman Arvie and seconded by Alderwoman Alfred to approve the following ordinance and accept/receive bids for the cabin on Northwest Railroad.

**ORDINANCE TO SELL CITY PROPERTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH LA. R.S. 33:4712**

An Ordinance approving the sale of city property, namely, that area known as "World Treasures".

**WHEREAS**, Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:4712 provides that a municipality may sell to private persons at a private sale, any property, or portions thereof, including immovable property, which is, in the opinion of the governing authority, not needed for public purposes.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen have reviewed the property needs of the city of Ville Platte and that property described as:

Old World Treasures Building and property.

A certain lot or parcel of ground, together with all buildings and improvements thereon and thereto appertaining, located in the Town of Ville Platte, Evangeline Parish, Louisiana, and being described as having a thirty-one (31) foot front on East Main Street by a depth between parallel lines a sufficient distance to reach the alley running East and West and subdividing Block No. Twenty-Five (25); said lot being further described as the Western Thirty point one (30.1) feet of Lot No. Two (2) of Block No. Twenty-Five (25) and the East point nine (.9) feet of Lot No. Three (3) of Block No. Twenty -Five (25) of the A. M. Lafleur Subdivision to the Town of Ville Platte, Louisiana; said Lot being further described as bounded, now or formerly, North by alley, South by Main Street, East by Doucet's Barbershop, now or formerly belonging to Elin Pitre; and West by Commercial Securities Building, now or formerly belonging to Elin Pitre.

Being the same property acquired by Donald L. Chapman from Elin Pitre by Cash Sale dated February 24, 1967, passed before Jean W. Pucheu, Notary Public, and duly recorded in the Conveyance Records of Evangeline Parish Clerk of Court's office.

In the opinion of this governing authority said immovable property is not needed for public purposes at this time or in the foreseeable future;

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen have reviewed current market rates for immovable property and have sought professional guidance in fixing the minimum price at an amount to be set after a public hearing with said amount to be paid cash in hand upon the execution of the Act of Cash Sale with said sale to include an "as is" provision in which the buyer takes said property and waives any rights he may have to redhibition;

**WHEREAS**, the city shall publish three times in fifteen days, one week apart, in a newspaper published in the municipality a notice of this proposed ordinance before completing the proposed sale;

**WHEREAS**, any opposition to the proposed ordinance shall be made in writing, filed with the clerk of the City of Ville Platte within fifteen days its first publication. If an opposition is filed, the governing authority shall not adopt the ordinance until a hearing has been held. If the ordinance is adopted, it shall not become effective until ten days after its passage, during which time any interested citizen may apply to the district court having jurisdiction of the municipality for an order restraining the disposition of the property. After the ordinance becomes effective, it cannot be contested for any reason.

**WHEREAS**, it is now the desire of this City's Board of Aldermen to approve said sale as outlined herein and in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:4712;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Ville Platte, State of Louisiana, in legal and regular and/or special session, acting as the "Governing Authority" of said City, after a public hearing with legal notice, sale city property in accordance with the terms of this ordinance.

The final adoption of the foregoing ordinance having been duly moved and seconded, the roll was called and the following vote was taken and recorded:

YEAS: Dardeau, Sam, Alfred, Arvie, Perron and Jack

NAYS:

ABSENT:

There being a favorable vote on the ordinance of at least a majority of the authorized members of the Governing Authority, the ordinance was declared adopted on this the 10th day of April, 2007.

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Shelley Frugé, Clerk

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William "Bill" Jeanmard, Mayor

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Alderman Jack, seconded by Alderwoman Alfred to approve the following resolution:

**CABLE FRANCHISE RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, City of Ville Platte ("City") desires to encourage and promote competition within its municipal limits for cable services (as that term is presently commonly understood within the cable service industry) and other video programming ("Cable Services") for its citizens;

**WHEREAS**, City desires to promote nonexclusive opportunities for Cable Service providers to operate within its municipal limits;

**WHEREAS**, City desires to provide nondiscriminatory franchise agreement opportunities for all providers of Cable Services within its municipal limits; and

**WHEREAS**, City desires to cooperate with the Louisiana Municipal Association and other municipalities within the State of Louisiana in order to meet the foregoing goals throughout the state.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2007 that the City of Ville Platte, did meet in open and regular session in order to consider this Resolution and to hereby state the intent of the City of Ville Platte regarding franchise agreements for Cable Services and the encouragement of access to and competition among Cable Service providers with its municipal limits.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that should any Cable Service provider desire to provide Cable Services within the municipal limits of the City, City does hereby agree to enter into a cable franchise agreement substantially similar to that agreement attached hereto and made apart hereof as Exhibit A (the "Cable Franchise Agreement").

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that should any non-incumbent provider of Cable Services agree to and execute the Cable Franchise Agreement, City does hereby agree to enter into a substantially similar Cable Franchise Agreement with any incumbent provider of Cable Services.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that City shall, henceforth, not enter into any franchise agreement for Cable Services other than agreements substantially similar to the Cable Franchise Agreement.

**THUS DONE**, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2007 in Ville Platte (municipality), Evangeline Parish, Louisiana.

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William "Bill" Jeanmard, Mayor

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Shelley Fruge, City Clerk

Motion Carried.

Keith Fontenot with LSU Agriculture appeared before the Council informing them of different things that they are in charge of that may be beneficial to the City of Ville Platte.

City Clerk Shelley Fruge informed the Council that the hospitalization insurance has increased 20% due to high claims and presented the Council with other insurance options. It was then moved by Alderman Dardeau and seconded by Alderman Jack to approve Renewal Option 2 with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana. The plan includes a \$1,000 deductible, \$40.00 co-pay for doctor's visits and prescriptions remain the same. The city will pay 80% of Employees' premiums, 65% of Employee and Spouse's premiums, 68% of Employee and Children's premiums and 61% of Employee and Family's premiums.

Motion Carried.

Department Reports – City Treasurer Rod LaFleur informed the Council that there have been no significant changes in the monies transactions copies of the financials and bill were presented to the council.

At the request of the Chief of Police and the approval of the Mayor, it was moved by Alderman Jack and seconded by Alderwoman Alfred to hire 2 part-time jailers, Antonta Soileau and Costanza Thomas, upon completion of drug screens and physicals; also hiring 2 full-time Police Officers, Terry Frilot and Leoplian Herbert, upon completion of drug tests and physicals; and promoting Latonia Rideau from Dispatcher to Probational Police Officer, giving him a total of 29 full time officers.

Motion Carried.

The Chief also informed the Council that he has a Police Officer on Administrative Leave without pay until such time as the Officer can obtain a driver's license.

City Engineer – The Engineer reported he has advertised the Re-hab Sewer Project.

Alderman Perron asked for an update on the Demoncherveaux Subdivision drainage problem. The Engineer stated that he had met with Police Jury Davis Manuel and their Public Works Director, along with the Mayor and the Council members that represent that district and the problem is being worked on.

Sharon Fontenot, Grant Director informed the Council that they will be receiving a grant in the amount of \$79,801.00 from the Office of Youth Services for the YOU program. She stated that the applications have been distributed for 15 year-olds only and the money will have to be spent by June 30. She also informed them that she is looking for grant monies to start the YOU Program for the fall.

Sharon Fontenot also informed the Council that she and the City Clerk are working on the Southside playground equipment along with Councilmen Jack and Sam.

Mayors' Report – The Mayor informed the Council that there are copies of departmental activities in their files and that they will be receiving those on a monthly basis to allow the Council to see work activities. He also requested that the Council review the list to see if they need to add anything to the list for their respective district.

The Mayor also submitted three names for the Evangeline-Ville Platte Recreation District Board: Hilda Edwards, Steve Phillips and Harry Anderson. It was then moved by Alderman Perron and seconded by Alderman Jack to approve the submitted names.

Motion Carried.

The Mayor informed the Council that the following names will be given the Mayor's Distinguished Citizen's Award for their trip to the Top 28 High School Basketball Championship Tournament: Jovan Freeman, Ralensee Nelson, Hansoni Alfred, Coby Bellard, Cody Bellard, Johnathon C. Freeman, Tyson Freeman, Felton Edwards, Keyfus Fontenot, A.J. Sampson and Jerry Joseph; and Renotta Edwards and Jamien Arvie who play for LSUE and journeyed to Phoenix, AZ for the Collegiate Championship Games.

It was then moved by Alderman Jack and seconded by Alderman Sam that, there being no further business, the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

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William "Bill" Jeanmard, Mayor

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Shelley Fruge, City Clerk