

DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

**PLACE OF MEETING: LIVINGSTON PARISH GOVERNMENTAL BUILDING
LIVINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL CHAMBERS
20355 GOVERNMENT BOULEVARD
LIVINGSTON, LOUISIANA 70754**

**PUBLIC HEARING(S) OF THE LIVINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL ON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE
LIVINGSTON PARISH GOVERNMENTAL BUILDING
LIVINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL CHAMBERS
20355 GOVERNMENT BOULEVARD, LIVINGSTON, LOUISIANA 70754**

The chair called the Public Hearing to order and opened the Public Hearing. He explained the purpose of the Public Hearing and how Public Input would be accepted from the audience members who wished to speak.

The chair called upon the Council clerk to read the ordinances by title:

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-15:

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE MILLAGE RATES AS ADJUSTED FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-16:

AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATES AFTER REASSESSMENT AND ROLL FORWARD THE MILLAGE RATES NOT TO EXCEED THE PRIOR YEARS MAXIMUM RATE FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-21:

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE MILLAGE RATES AS ADJUSTED FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024.

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-22:

AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATES AFTER REASSESSMENT AND ROLL FORWARD THE MILLAGE RATES NOT TO EXCEED THE PRIOR YEARS MAXIMUM RATE FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024.

L. P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-26

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 125, "SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS", ARTICLE IV- "SUBDIVISIONS WITHOUT IMPROVEMENTS", SECTION 125-51 "SUBMITTALS" AND SECTIONS 125-52 "PROCEDURES WITH SUBDIVISIONS WITHOUT IMPROVEMENTS" BY DELETING THE SECTIONS IN THEIR ENTIRETY, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF LIVINGSTON PARISH.

L.P. ORDINANCE 24-27

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 1, "GENERAL PROVISIONS", SECTION 1-8 "GENERAL PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF CODE; SEPARATE OFFENSES." OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES IN AND FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON.

L.P. ORDINANCE 24-28

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 74, "VEGETATION," ARTICLE IV, "GRASS, WEEDS, BRUSH, DEBRIS, AND TRASH", BY AMENDING SECTION 74-89, "NOTICE TO ABATE NUISANCE; PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.", SECTION 74-91, "RIGHT OF PARISH TO ABATE NUISANCE, RECOVER COSTS FROM OWNER.", SECTION 74-92, "EXTENSIONS OF TIME IN WHICH TO ABATE NUISANCE OR HEALTH HAZARD.", SECTION 74-93, "REFUSAL OF CERTIFIED MAIL.", AND

SECTION 74-95, "ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT." OF THE
CODE OF ORDINANCES IN AND FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON.

The chair asked if there was anyone in attendance that wished to speak for or against these ordinances?

Public input: Abby Crosby, serves on the Library Board of Control who wished to speak on:

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-21:

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE MILLAGE RATES AS ADJUSTED FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024.

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-22:

AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATES AFTER REASSESSMENT AND ROLL FORWARD THE MILLAGE RATES NOT TO EXCEED THE PRIOR YEARS MAXIMUM RATE FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024.

Having no other comment from the Public, the chair closed the Public Hearing.

Minutes of the Livingston Parish Council
Livingston, Louisiana
September 19, 2024

The Livingston Parish Council met in a regular session duly called, advertised, and convened at its regular meeting place, at the Governmental Building in the Parish Council Chambers, located on 20355 Government Boulevard, Livingston, Louisiana, on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at the hour of six o'clock (6:00) p.m. with the following Livingston Parish Council members present:

Lonnie Watts
Ryan Chavers
Billy Taylor
Erin Sandefur

John Mangus
Ricky Goff
Dean Coates
Joseph "Joe" Erdey

John Wascom

Also present: Brad Cascio, Parish Legal Counsel

Absent: Parish President Randy Delatte

The chair called the meeting to order.

The chair asked the public to please mute or turn off their cell phones.

The chair wished to remind everyone that when addressing any agenda item, please speak into the microphone.

The chair announced that Public Input would be accepted from any member of the audience wishing to address an agenda item and explained the procedure to be called upon.

The chair addressed agenda item number 9a, "Adopt the Minutes: August 22, 2024 Regular Council Meeting" and asked for a motion to approve those minutes.

LPR NO. 24-338

MOTION was offered by John Mangus and duly seconded by Billy Taylor to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the August 22, 2024 regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council and adopt as written.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY,
MR. MANGUS, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted on September 19, 2024.

The chair addressed agenda item number 11a, “Parish President’s Office: Adopt a resolution from the Livingston Parish Council to authorize the name of a fallen Livingston Parish Veteran, Eugene Selders, to be added to the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall”, and called upon Mr. Thomas “Bruiser” Bryson from Administration.

Mr. Bryson explained how this matter came to his attention and it was discovered that Mr. Eugene Selders was inadvertently left off of the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall due to an address error. He requested to read the proposed proclamation aloud in honor of Mr. Selders as follows:

A RESOLUTION BY THE LIVINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE THE NAME OF A FALLEN LIVINGSTON PARISH VETERAN, EUGENE SELDERS, TO BE ADDED TO THE LIVINGSTON PARISH VETERAN WALL.

WHEREAS, the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall was constructed in 1982 by the Livingston Parish Police Jury in order to give others the opportunity to pay their heartfelt respect and express the deepest gratitude to those from Livingston Parish who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms; and

WHEREAS, since the birth of our great nation, many Livingston Parish men and women have served their country in the United States Armed Forces and have given their lives defending the principles of human freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall was built to honor all Livingston Parish Veterans who left their last blood on foreign or domestic lands; and

WHEREAS, PFC Eugene Selders, born April 4, 1949, met with casualty on June 4, 1970 in Pleiku, Vietnam while serving in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, PFC Eugene Selders resided on Selders Road, a part of Livingston Parish; although, Selders Road has a Tangipahoa Parish address causing his name to be overlooked as a citizen of Livingston Parish when the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall was first erected; and

WHEREAS, Livingston Parish wishes to honor Eugene Selders’ sacrifice for Livingston Parish citizens by adding his name to the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall under Vietnam War.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Livingston Parish Government authorizes Seale Monument Company, at no charge to Parish Government, to engrave the name of PFC Eugene Selders, a confirmed resident of Livingston Parish, onto the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall under Vietnam War so we never forget his sacrifice during war.

The chair requested that the Selders family located in the audience stand while they voted on the resolution.

**STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF LIVINGSTON
LPR NO. 24-339**

MOTION was offered by Billy Taylor and duly seconded by John Mangus:

A RESOLUTION BY THE LIVINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE THE NAME OF A FALLEN LIVINGSTON PARISH VETERAN, EUGENE SELDERS, TO BE ADDED TO THE LIVINGSTON PARISH VETERAN WALL.

WHEREAS, the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall was constructed in 1982 by the Livingston Parish Police Jury in order to give others the opportunity to pay their heartfelt respect and express the deepest gratitude to those from Livingston Parish who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms; and

WHEREAS, since the birth of our great nation, many Livingston Parish men and women have served their country in the United States Armed Forces and have given their lives defending the principles of human freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall was built to honor all Livingston Parish Veterans who left their last blood on foreign or domestic lands; and

WHEREAS, PFC Eugene Selders, born April 4, 1949, met with casualty on June 4, 1970 in Pleiku, Vietnam while serving in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, PFC Eugene Selders resided on Selders Road, a part of Livingston Parish; although, Selders Road has a Tangipahoa Parish address causing his name to be overlooked as a citizen of Livingston Parish when the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall was first erected; and

WHEREAS, Livingston Parish wishes to honor Eugene Selders' sacrifice for Livingston Parish citizens by adding his name to the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall under Vietnam War.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Livingston Parish Government authorizes Seale Monument Company, at no charge to Parish Government, to engrave the name of PFC Eugene Selders, a confirmed resident of Livingston Parish, onto the Livingston Parish Veteran Wall under Vietnam War so we never forget his sacrifice during war.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY,
MR. MANGUS, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted on September 19, 2024.

The audience members applauded. The chair allowed for a photo opportunity.

The chair addressed agenda item number 8, "Presentations:" and called upon Mr. Matt Belser, candidate for District Judge 21st Judicial District Court, Division L in the upcoming election to be held on November 5, 2024.

Mr. Matthew Belser came to the podium and introduced himself to the Council members. He advised that he currently serves as an Assistant District Attorney with the District Attorney's office. He explained his experience and some of his history serving in the Parish of Livingston. He stated that he is running for the new seat that has come open, "Division L", that was created by the last Legislative session.

The chair thanked Mr. Belser for his presentation and moved to the next agenda item.

The chair addressed agenda item number 14b, "Parish President's Office: Adopt a Resolution to proclaim September 2024 as "Suicide Prevention Month" and called upon Brandon Browning, Communications Director – Government Affairs.

Mr. Browning called upon Ms. Sheriva Lewis, Clinic Manager of the Florida Parishes Human Services Center in Denham Springs. Ms. Lewis wished to explain to the Council members about Suicide Awareness Month and express why the Florida Parishes Human Services Authority felt that it is special to them.

Upon the end of her presentation, Mr. Browning was called upon by the chair to read the resolution declaring September as Suicide Prevention Month as follows:

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the second leading cause of death among individuals between 10 and 34 years of age;

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 individual in the United States dies by suicide every 11 minutes resulting in around 48,000 deaths each year in the United States;

WHEREAS, suicide is the 14th leading cause of death in Louisiana and the 3rd leading cause of death for Louisianan ages 10-24 and 25-34;

WHEREAS, the suicide rate in Louisiana has increased by 39.3% over the past 20 years;

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, many factors contribute to suicide among individuals with and without known mental health conditions, including challenges related to relationships, substance abuse, physical health, and stress regarding work, money, legal problems, or housing;

WHEREAS, deaths by suicide can be prevented with early intervention;

WHEREAS, every September, mental health advocates, prevention organizations, survivors, allies and community members unite to promote suicide prevention awareness;

WHEREAS, suicide is an issue that has impacted many Livingston Parish families;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Randy Delatte, Parish President of Livingston Parish, State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim that suicide is a serious public health problem, and I express my support by proclaiming

September as "Suicide Prevention Month."

The chair asked for a motion and a second to declare September as “Suicide Prevention Month” as follows:

PROCLAMATION

PARISH OF LIVINGSTON
STATE OF LOUISIANA

LPR NO. 24-340

MOTION was made by John Mangus and seconded by Dean Coates:

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the second leading cause of death among individuals between 10 and 34 years of age;

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 individual in the United States dies by suicide every 11 minutes resulting in around 48,000 deaths each year in the United States;

WHEREAS, suicide is the 14th leading cause of death in Louisiana and the 3rd leading cause of death for Louisianan ages 10-24 and 25-34;

WHEREAS, the suicide rate in Louisiana has increased by 39.3% over the past 20 years;

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, many factors contribute to suicide among individuals with and without known mental health conditions, including challenges related to relationships, substance abuse, physical health, and stress regarding work, money, legal problems, or housing;

WHEREAS, deaths by suicide can be prevented with early intervention;

WHEREAS, every September, mental health advocates, prevention organizations, survivors, allies and community members unite to promote suicide prevention awareness;

WHEREAS, suicide is an issue that has impacted many Livingston Parish families;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Randy Delatte, Parish President of Livingston Parish, State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim that suicide is a serious public health problem, and I express my support by proclaiming:

September as “Suicide Prevention Month.”

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY,
MR. MANGUS, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted on September 19, 2024.

The chair addressed agenda item number 12, “Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 24-21: An Ordinance setting the millage rates for the Library as adjusted for the Tax Year 2024 – Ricky Goff (*Mr. Goff will not be taking action on this item*)”.

The chair called upon Councilman Ricky Goff who explained that as it was stated before, the Council would take no action if the Library did what they needed to do, and they did, in regard to their 2024 millages. He asked if Library Board member, Abby Crosby, could explain about the confusion of the millage being 7.75, it was now set at 7.53.

Ms. Crosby explained that an advertisement for the adoption of their millages wasn’t properly advertised. The Library Board Director was contacted by the Legislative Auditor’s Office to advise of the error of the paperwork not being filed and that the millage must be set at 7.53. Ms. Crosby stated that the Assessor was aware of it as well.

There was a brief discussion regarding if the Council could take action or if they should just pull this agenda item and take no action.

It was decided that it should be pulled as well as agenda item number 13, “Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 24-22: An Ordinance to levy adjusted millage rates after reassessment for the

Library and roll forward the millage rates not to exceed the prior year’s maximum rate for the Tax Year 2024 – Ricky Goff (*Mr. Goff will not be taking action on this item*)”.

The chair addressed agenda item number 14, “Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 24-15: An Ordinance setting the millage rates as adjusted for the Tax Year 2024”.

The chair requested the Council clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title as follows:

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-15

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE MILLAGE RATES AS ADJUSTED FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024.

TAX	MILLAGE
Parish General Alimony (Parish)	1.74
Exempted Municipalities (Parish/Local)	.87
Road Equipment & Maintenance & Bridges	3.77
Health Unit	1.88

The chair called upon Councilman John Mangus, Finance committee chairman, and asked if the committee recommended to approve those as they were listed.

Councilman Mangus advised not exactly, the committee had made a recommendation in their meeting held earlier that evening for “Parish Alimony-inside” to go to 1.16 mills, “Parish Alimony-outside” would go to 2.32 mills, the “Health Unit” would go from 2.5 to 1.5 and “Parish Road Maintenance Construction Drainage” would go to five.

LPR NO. 24-341

The following ordinance which was previously introduced in written form required for adoption at a regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council on June 13, 2024, a summary thereof having been published in the Official Journal together with a notice of public hearing which was held in accordance with said public notice, was brought up for final passage on September 19, 2024 on Motion of John Mangus and seconded by Joe Erdey:

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-15

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE MILLAGE RATES AS ADJUSTED FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024.

TAX	MILLAGE
Parish General Alimony (Parish)	1.74
Exempted Municipalities (Parish/Local)	.87
Road Equipment & Maintenance & Bridges	3.77
Health Unit	1.88

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY, MR. MANGUS, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and the ordinance was adopted on September 19, 2024.

(The above and foregoing ordinance, upon final approval by the President, or the Council in case of veto by the President, shall be published in full in the Official Journal by the Clerk of the Council within fifteen (15) days of its adoption and shall be recorded in full in the Livingston Parish Council Ordinance Book No. 5).

****Clerk’s Note:**

Councilman John Mangus reported that the Finance committee had made a recommendation to the Council for the millage rates to be: “Parish Alimony-inside” to go to 1.16 mills, “Parish Alimony-outside” to go to 2.32 mills, the “Health Unit” would go from 2.5 to 1.5 and “Parish Road Maintenance Construction Drainage” would go to five.

However, the ordinance was not amended by a vote of the Council nor adopted as amended, therefore the numbers in ordinance are set as they were introduced.

The chair addressed agenda item number 15, “Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 24-16: An Ordinance to levy adjusted millage rates after reassessment and roll forward the millage rates not to exceed the prior year’s maximum rate for the Tax Year 2024”.

The chair requested the Council clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title as follows:

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-16

AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATES AFTER REASSESSMENT AND ROLL FORWARD THE MILLAGE RATES NOT TO EXCEED THE PRIOR YEARS MAXIMUM RATE FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024.

TAX	MILL KEY	ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATES	2024 LEVY MILLS
General Alimony (Parish)	002	1.74	2.320
Exempted Municipalities (Parish/Local)	003	.87	1.16
Road Equipment & Maintenance & Bridges	006	3.77	5.000
Health Unit	008	1.88	2.500

LPR NO. 24-342

The following ordinance which was previously introduced in written form required for adoption at a regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council on June 13, 2024, a summary thereof having been published in the Official Journal together with a notice of public hearing which was held in accordance with said public notice, was brought up for final passage on September 19, 2024 on Motion of Lonnie Watts and seconded by John Mangus:

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-16

AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATES AFTER REASSESSMENT AND ROLL FORWARD THE MILLAGE RATES NOT TO EXCEED THE PRIOR YEARS MAXIMUM RATE FOR THE TAX YEAR 2024.

TAX	MILL KEY	ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATES	2024 LEVY MILLS
General Alimony (Parish)	002	1.74	2.320
Exempted Municipalities (Parish/Local)	003	.87	1.16
Road Equipment & Maintenance & Bridges	006	3.77	5.000
Health Unit	008	1.88	2.500

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY, MR. MANGUS, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and the ordinance was adopted on September 19, 2024.

(The above and foregoing ordinance, upon final approval by the President, or the Council in case of veto by the President, shall be published in full in the Official Journal by the Clerk of the Council within fifteen (15) days of its adoption and shall be recorded in full in the Livingston Parish Council Ordinance Book No. 5).

The chair addressed agenda item number 16, “Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 24-26: An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 125 “Subdivision Regulations”, Section 125-51 “Subdivisions without Improvements”, and Section 125-52 “Procedures with Subdivisions without Improvements” by deleting the sections in their entirety – Ryan Chavers”.

The chair called upon the Council clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title as follows:

L. P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-26

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 125, “SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS”, ARTICLE IV– “SUBDIVISIONS WITHOUT IMPROVEMENTS”, SECTION 125-51 “SUBMITTALS” AND SECTIONS 125-52 “PROCEDURES WITH SUBDIVISIONS WITHOUT IMPROVEMENTS” BY DELETING THE SECTIONS IN THEIR ENTIRETY, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF LIVINGSTON PARISH.

The chair called upon Councilman Ryan Chavers who wished to read what the definition is in the Parish’s Code of Ordinances as follows:

“Subdivisions without Improvements means the division of a lot, tract or parcel of land into ten (10) lots or more when the O/D/S does not intend to construct a road, highway, street, alley, any utilities that include but are not limited to sewer, water or gas”.

Councilman Chavers advised that he wished to make the motion to adopt this proposed ordinance.

Councilman John Mangus requested that Councilman Chavers explain the proposed ordinance a little more.

Councilman Chavers indicated that he had spoken to the Parish’s Planning Executive, Mr. Jerome Fournier, about this proposed ordinance. He explained that what this ordinance currently is, is that a developer can develop in Livingston Parish ten (10) lots or more and not have to construct a road, utility, sewer, water, anything of that nature. After speaking with Mr. Fournier and his District’s Planning Commission member, as well as sending it through the Ordinance committee for review, the ordinance being presented would remove subdivisions without improvements.

Public input: Sarah Phares, Livingston Parish Planning and Zoning Commission member

The chair asked for further clarification.

Councilman Chavers advised that this proposed ordinance is for new development being built in the Parish that doesn’t allow any more development to have no roads, no utilities, none of that. It does not affect what is currently there and constructed on Parish roads.

LPR NO. 24-343

The following ordinance which was previously introduced in written form required for adoption at a regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council on August 22, 2024, a summary thereof having been published in the Official Journal together with a notice of public hearing which was held in accordance with said public notice, was brought up for final passage on September 19, 2024 on Motion of Ryan Chavers and seconded by Dean Coates:

L. P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-26

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 125, “SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS”, ARTICLE IV– “SUBDIVISIONS WITHOUT IMPROVEMENTS”, SECTION 125-51 “SUBMITTALS” AND SECTIONS 125-52 “PROCEDURES WITH SUBDIVISIONS WITHOUT IMPROVEMENTS” BY DELETING THE SECTIONS IN THEIR ENTIRETY, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF LIVINGSTON PARISH.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. ERDEY, MR. MANGUS, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: MR. WASCOM, MR. WATTS

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and the ordinance was adopted on September 19, 2024.

(The above and foregoing ordinance, upon final approval by the President, or the Council in case of veto by the President, shall be published in full in the Official Journal by the Clerk of the Council within fifteen (15) days of its adoption and shall be recorded in full in the Livingston Parish Council Ordinance Book No. 5).

The chair addressed agenda item number 17, “Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 24-27: An Ordinance to update Code Enforcement by amending Chapter 1, “General Provisions”, Section 1-8 “General Penalty for Violation of Code; Separate Offenses.” – Billy Taylor” asked the Council clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title as follows:

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-27

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 1, “GENERAL PROVISIONS”, SECTION 1-8 “GENERAL PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF CODE; SEPARATE OFFENSES.” OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES IN AND FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON.

The chair called upon Councilman Billy Taylor to explain this proposed ordinance.

Councilman Taylor advised that this ordinance gives the Compliance Department the authority to act within their scope of work on behalf of the Parish for code violations.

LPR NO. 24-344

The following ordinance which was previously introduced in written form required for adoption at a regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council on August 22, 2024, a summary thereof having been published in the Official Journal together with a notice of public hearing which was held in accordance with said public notice, was brought up for final passage on September 19, 2024 on Motion of Billy Taylor and seconded by John Mangus:

L.P. ORDINANCE NO. 24-27

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 1, “GENERAL PROVISIONS”, SECTION 1-8 “GENERAL PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF CODE; SEPARATE OFFENSES.” OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES IN AND FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON.

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY, MR. MANGUS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: MR. CHAVERS

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and the ordinance was adopted on September 19, 2024.

(The above and foregoing ordinance, upon final approval by the President, or the Council in case of veto by the President, shall be published in full in the Official Journal by the Clerk of the Council within fifteen (15) days of its adoption and shall be recorded in full in the Livingston Parish Council Ordinance Book No. 5).

The chair addressed agenda item number 18, “Adoption of L.P. Ordinance No. 24-28: An Ordinance to amend Chapter 74, Section 74-89: Notice to abate nuisance; penalty for noncompliance”, Section 74-91 “Right of Parish to abate nuisance, recover costs from owner”, Section 74-92 “Extensions of time in which to abate nuisance or health hazard”, Section 74-93 “Refusal of certified mail”, and Section 74-95 “Administration and enforcement”, to update the enforcements and the penalties for noncompliance – Billy Taylor”, asked the Council clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title as follows:

L.P. ORDINANCE 24-28

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 74, “VEGETATION,” ARTICLE IV, “GRASS, WEEDS, BRUSH, DEBRIS, AND TRASH”, BY AMENDING SECTION 74-89, “NOTICE TO ABATE NUISANCE; PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.”, SECTION 74-91, “RIGHT OF PARISH TO ABATE NUISANCE, RECOVER COSTS FROM OWNER.”, SECTION 74-92, “EXTENSIONS OF TIME IN WHICH TO ABATE NUISANCE OR HEALTH HAZARD.”, SECTION 74-93, “REFUSAL OF CERTIFIED MAIL.”, AND SECTION 74-95, “ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.” OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES IN AND FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON.

The chair called upon Councilman Billy Taylor who explained that this proposed ordinance is just the same as the last, but gives more detail on giving a written notice instead of just by certified mail. It also gives the compliance officer the discretion to stipulate the number of days that that the owner of the property has to bring their property into compliance.

LPR NO. 24-345

The following ordinance which was previously introduced in written form required for adoption at a regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council on August 22, 2024, a summary thereof having been published in the Official Journal together with a notice of public hearing which was held in accordance with said public notice, was brought up for final passage on September 19, 2024 on Motion of Billy Taylor and seconded by Ricky Goff:

L.P. ORDINANCE 24-28

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 74, “VEGETATION,” ARTICLE IV, “GRASS, WEEDS, BRUSH, DEBRIS, AND TRASH”, BY AMENDING SECTION 74-89, “NOTICE TO ABATE NUISANCE; PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.”, SECTION 74-91, “RIGHT OF PARISH TO ABATE NUISANCE, RECOVER COSTS FROM OWNER.”, SECTION 74-92, “EXTENSIONS OF TIME IN WHICH TO ABATE NUISANCE OR HEALTH HAZARD.”, SECTION 74-93, “REFUSAL OF CERTIFIED MAIL.”, AND SECTION 74-95, “ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.” OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES IN AND FOR THE PARISH OF LIVINGSTON.

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY, MR. MANGUS, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and the ordinance was adopted on September 19, 2024.

(The above and foregoing ordinance, upon final approval by the President, or the Council in case of veto by the President, shall be published in full in the Official Journal by the Clerk of the Council within fifteen (15) days of its adoption and shall be recorded in full in the Livingston Parish Council Ordinance Book No. 5).

The chair addressed agenda item number 19, “Adopt a resolution to name an unnamed road, “JJ Street”, located off Old CC Road in Council District 9 – Joe Erdey”.

LPR NO. 24-346

MOTION was made by Joe Erdey and duly seconded by Billy Taylor to name an unnamed road, “JJ Street”, located off Old CC Road in Council District 9, as approved in writing on September 5, 2024 by the Livingston Parish Building and Permit office.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY, MR. MANGUS, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted on September 19, 2024.

The chair addressed agenda item number 20, “Adopt a resolution to request DPW to place a “School Zone” sign and change the speed limit to “15 mph” with flashing lights on Cecil Drive in Council District 2 – Ryan Chavers”.

The chair called upon Councilman Ryan Chavers to explain this agenda item. Councilman Chavers advised that he had a parish road that has two (2) schools located on it, Live Oak Middle and South Live Oak. He had been contacted by Sheriff Jason Ard who had recommendations about the placement of a school zone. He had also spoken to the residents in that area and some were in the audience that evening. He encouraged them to express their concerns and their hopes in getting this passed.

Public input: Kimberly Brininger, resident of the area in question

Councilman Chavers requested that Mr. Robert Dugas, Department of Public Works Director, come to the podium to address and answer some questions that he had.

Mr. Dugas explained that there were already ordinances in place setting a school zone to a specific speed limit. He advised that they needed to address where that school zone was located and that is where that zone would start. He further stated that as far as the installation of flashing lights, the Parish does not usually install them, the state does or they are installed by the school board.

The chair allowed a lengthy discussion. Speed humps were discussed.

Upon the end of the lengthy discussion, Councilman Chavers wished to pull this agenda item and meet with the residents to discuss speed limits, speed humps and the best way to address the speeding problems in this neighborhood.

The chair addressed agenda item number 21, “Adopt resolution to authorize a waiver of Section “125-176, “Definitions” to allow a third address on a twelve point zero five (12.05) acre tract for David Brunies, located on Gill Road, Parcel #0581173D in Council District 9 – Joseph “Joe” Erdey”.

The chair advised that this agenda item was being pulled.

The chair addressed agenda item number 22, “Adopt resolution to authorize a waiver of Section “125-176, “Definitions” to allow a third address on a three (3) acre tract for Jennifer Kreeger, located on Horseshoe Road, Parcel #0145789 in Council District 9 – Joseph “Joe” Erdey”.

Public input: Jennifer Kreeger, property owner requesting the waiver

LPR NO. 24-347

MOTION was made by Joe Erdey and duly seconded by Billy Taylor to authorize a waiver of Section “125-176, “Definitions” to allow a third address on a three (3) acre tract for Jennifer Kreeger, located on Horseshoe Road, Parcel #0145789 in Council District 9”.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY, MR. MANGUS, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR,

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted on September 19, 2024.

The chair addressed agenda item number 23, “Reconsideration of “Industrial Tax Exemption Program Notice of Non-Compliance for Gator Millworks, Inc.: Adopt resolution to defer any decision or action to the Louisiana Board of Commerce and Industry; or make a recommendation on the consequence for non-compliance; or agree on a default payment and send such notification to the Louisiana Board of Commerce – David Bennett/LEDC Director” from our previous meeting on August 22, 2024 – Billy Taylor”.

The chair called upon Councilman Billy Taylor who had been working on this matter.

Councilman Taylor explained that he had placed this on the agenda because he wished to reconsider his vote taking the action that had been made at the August 22, 2024 regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council. He advised the Council had voted to do a one (1) year reduction for every year of non-compliance. He further acknowledged that he took the advice and invitation of Mr. Chad Foster and visited the Gator Millworks facility. He was accompanied by Councilman Ricky Goff and Councilman John Mangus.

Councilman Taylor stated that this establishment is accomplishing groundbreaking developments and they are bringing good business within the Parish of Livingston. He advised that the owner’s initial investment was seven point five million (\$7,500,000.00), and later added one point three million (\$1,300,000.00) that did not fall within the ITEP. His projection for taxes in Livingston Parish that he had paid has been well exceeded.

Councilman Taylor advised that he wished to make a motion to take no action against Gator Millworks and he requested the Council members’ permission to go with Mr. Foster to the Commission Board and tell them that the Livingston Parish Council wished to take no action against Gator Millworks. Councilman John Mangus stated that he would like to second that motion.

Councilman John Mangus asked Councilman Taylor if he could clarify what he means when he stated no action. Councilman Taylor stated that no action meant that the Livingston Parish Council did not want to penalize Gator Millworks for two (2) years for non-compliance in the ITEP program.

LPR NO. 24-348

MOTION was offered by Billy Taylor and duly seconded by John Mangus to take no action against Gator Millworks by penalizing them for every year of non-compliance in the ITEP program, as previously voted upon at the August 22, 2022 regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council and further give authority and any permissions necessary to Councilman Billy Taylor to represent the Livingston Parish Council by accompanying Mr. Chad Foster of Gator Millworks to the Board of Commissions and convey the will of the Livingston Parish Council is to take no action by penalizing them for every year of non-compliance.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY,
MR. MANGUS, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted on September 19, 2024.

The chair addressed agenda item number 24, "Livingston Parish Highway Improvement Committee – Ryan Chavers".

The chair called upon Councilman Ryan Chavers who stated that he very quickly wanted to explain what it was and the intent behind it so everybody knows.

He stated that the intention of the Livingston Parish Highway Improvement Committee was to consist of a few Parish Council members, citizens, potentially state representatives and the Department of Public Works. He further advised that this was an opportunity for them to unify together and provide updates to the people of Livingston Parish providing for them a platform for them to come to the committee and express concerns of areas in their district that may have road problems.

He advised that because of it being a conflict with some, he was going to pull it for now, but it is still an idea, and still a really good thing for this Parish to show unity and that they are being transparent and working together to do what they can for the people of this Parish.

The chair addressed agenda item number 25a, "Board (re)appointment(s)/Resignation(s): Accept Resignation of Jeff Easley from Fire Protection District No. 4 – Ryan Chavers".

LPR NO. 24-349

MOTION was offered by Ryan Chavers and duly seconded by Erin Sandefur to accept the resignation of Jeff Easley (resident of Council District 2) from Fire Protection District No. 4, effective on September 15, 2024; this two (2) year term will expire on January 1, 2025.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY,
MR. MANGUS, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had carried and was adopted on September 19, 2024.

The chair addressed agenda item number 26a, "Committee Reports: Finance Committee", and called upon Councilman John Mangus. Councilman Mangus advised that they had covered this matter earlier in the meeting.

The chair addressed agenda item number 26b, “Committee Reports: Ordinance Committee” and called upon Councilman Dean Coates, chairman of the Ordinance committee. Councilman Coates stated that they had some productive conversations at their committee meeting that had been held on the previous Tuesday. He wanted to encourage everyone to bring their ordinances to the committee.

The chair addressed agenda item number 27, “District Attorney’s Report” and called upon Mr. Brad Cascio. Mr. Cascio wished to acknowledge why his seat was empty at the last Council meeting. He advised that he was involved in a jury trial with a bad man that had hurt some young people. He felt certain that he would have the trial finished before the Council meeting began, but the jury deliberated for over seven (7) hours. He stated that while the jury is in deliberations, sometimes they come out with questions and he must be in the courtroom and cannot leave for those purposes. He advised that he hated that his seat was empty and apologized that he could not make it, however they did get a guilty verdict and they were taking him off of the streets and his absence wasn’t for nothing.

Councilmen’s Comments:

Councilman Ryan Chavers advised that he had received a phone call from Fire Chief James Wascom, Fire Chief of Fire Protection District No. 4. Councilman Chavers explained that he had made a post on social media thanking Chris Anderson for his help and preparing him in Watson for the storm. He failed to mention how hard the firefighters were working to also prepare them in his Council District and for that, he wished to apologize. He wished to publicly thank them for their endless hard work. He stated that he could not thank them enough, along with the Sheriff’s Office.

Councilwoman Erin Sandefur stated that every year, District 5 hosts a Trunk-or-treat. She advised that Mr. Bubba Harris was the one that started this event after the 2016 Flood. This year the event will be held at South Park in District 5 on Vincent Road on October 27th from six o’clock (6:00) p.m. until eight o’clock (8:00) p.m.

She stated that it is taking off really fast and they need people to volunteer to decorate their trunks and also need the kids to come and make it because there is a lot of exciting things coming this year. She further advised that earlier that day the park itself will host “Jamming in the Park” from three o’clock (3:00) p.m. until six o’clock (6:00) p.m. that will segway into Trunk-or-treat. There will be a live band, food, music, family and fun. She indicated that they are currently doing a lot of work in South Park and she hoped to see everyone there to enjoy this event. She conveyed that if anyone wished to sign up for a trunk, they could call her number on the website.

Councilwoman Sandefur stated that she was very sorry that Parish President Delatte was not able to hear what she was going to say in person and she would really like to say it in person, but she thought that it needed to be said. She advised that she wanted to let him know these thoughts anyway. She stated that she would really like to thank their Parish President for leading them through Hurricane Francine and helping the recovery process. She sincerely appreciated his dedication to our residents during that challenging time. She advised that she knew that she and Parish President Delatte sometimes do not see eye to eye but she wanted to assure him that she did want to work hand in hand with him, and while they may not always agree, she wanted everyone to know, as well as Parish President Delatte, that her intentions are sincere in trying to do what is best for her constituency and her Parish.

Councilman John Mangus wanted to say thank you to the EOC, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Browning, Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Delatte, Mr. Bryson and Mr. Avara. He also wished to thank them for allowing him to volunteer in the EOC. He stated that the Fire Departments were incredible, Mr. Wascom, Mr. Joe, being very, very helpful. He also wanted to say a quick thanks to the Sheriff and his office and the Captain did a really wonderful job in responding to every issue that they had.

He invited everyone to the Immaculate Conception Men’s Club spaghetti and meatball fundraiser that would be held on Sunday, from ten o’clock (10:00) a.m. until two o’clock (2:00).

Councilman Billy Taylor announced that on Saturday they would be having “Marche in the Park” located at North Park in Denham Springs. There would be car shows, food truck roundup, hot air balloon rides, face painting and many other things would be available. He stated that it would be from three o’clock (3:00) p.m. until seven o’clock (7:00) p.m.

Councilman Lonnie Watts stated that the Livingston Parish Fair would be held on October the 8th and it will run through the 13th. He advised that there will be two (2) nights of rodeo, carnival rides and it will be the 87th year that the fair has been in existence.

The chair advised that he was at his camp on the river after the hurricane, and observed thousands of fish gasping for air and floating. He said that on social media many others were posting pictures of dead fish from other tributaries. The chair reached out to some of the Louisiana delegation who are working with Wildlife and Fisheries. He proposed to them that if the Council adopted a resolution to ask for consideration to help certain areas of waterways to restock the fish the Delegation would help. The Delegation asked if the Council could indicate which waterways the fish are located in and what type of fish. He asked for anyone that has information on this to turn it in to the Deputy Clerk in the Council office. The chair would like to adopt this resolution at the next regular meeting of the Council.

Councilman Lonnie Watts requested that the Council members remember and show appreciation to Entergy and Demco's workers for getting the power restored in a very quick manner after the hurricane.

Councilman Joe Erdey wished to announce the third annual Hungarian Harvest Dance Festival that would be held two (2) weeks from Saturday. He encouraged everyone to attend and experience tradition, good food and a dance you have never seen. He advised that you will have a long fun day. Councilman Erdey stated that the event will be held at the Springfield Fire Station on October the 5th.

Councilman Ricky Goff stated that he would like to support all of his fellow Council members that have announced these activities that evening, and requested if Mr. Brandon Browning, Communications Director – Governmental Affairs, could get this information and put it on the Parish's new app.

Having no further business, a motion to adjourn was requested until the next regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council scheduled on Thursday, September 26, 2024 at the hour of six o'clock (6:00) p.m. in Livingston, Louisiana.

LPR NO. 24-350

MOTION was offered by Ricky Goff and duly seconded by John Mangus to adjourn the September 19, 2024 regular meeting of the Livingston Parish Council.

Upon being submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: MR. WASCOM, MR. GOFF, MR. COATES, MR. WATTS, MR. ERDEY,
MR. MANGUS, MR. CHAVERS, MS. SANDEFUR, MR. TAYLOR

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Thereupon the chair declared that the Motion had been carried and was adopted and that the meeting was adjourned.



Sandy C. Teal, Council clerk



John Wascom, Council chairman

The audio and video for this meeting may be found in its entirety on the Livingston Parish Council's YouTube page at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nac0Pj7q0Pc&t=4835s>

It may also be found on the Livingston Parish Council's website at:

<https://www.livingstonparishcouncil.com/>

If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Teal at the Livingston Parish Council office at (225)686-3027.