

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RUSTON HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2009, AT 5:30 P.M., IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS/COURTROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR, CITY HALL, 401 NORTH TRENTON, RUSTON, LOUISIANA**

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ruston was held Monday, August 3, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers/Courtroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Hall, 401 North Trenton, Ruston, Louisiana.

A quorum was present, notice having been duly served. Mayor Dan Hollingsworth, Aldermen Jedd Lewis, Elmore Mayfield, Jim Pearce, Levell Thurman and Alderwoman Marie Riggs were present.

Mayor Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Alderman Jedd Lewis led in the invocation.

**I. ADOPT:**

**A. AGENDA.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jedd Lewis and seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce to adopt the agenda. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**B. MINUTES OF JULY 7, 2009 - REGULAR MEETING.**

Alderman Jim Pearce made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jedd Lewis, to approve the Minutes of the July 7, 2009, Regular Council meeting. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**II. PARKS AND RECREATION:**

**A. INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_ OF 2009, AMENDING SECTION 17.5-1 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA RELATING TO PARKS AND RECREATION IN THE CITY OF RUSTON.**

The ordinance was introduced by Alderwoman Marie Riggs.

**III. AIRPORT:**

**A. INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_ OF 2009, AMENDING CHAPTER 4 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA, RELATING TO AIRPORT AND AIRCRAFT IN THE CITY OF RUSTON.**

The ordinance was introduced by Alderman Jim Pearce.

**IV. POLICE:**

**A. CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ OF 2009, AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS MOVABLE PROPERTY TO THE TOWN OF DUBACH, LINCOLN PARISH, LOUISIANA.**

Steve Rogers was present to answer the Council's questions. After a brief discussion, motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderman Levell Thurman to authorize the donation of surplus equipment which consists of two (2) Kustom Signals Eyewitness VHS Video Systems to the Town of Dubach. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (RESOLUTION NO. 646 OF 2009)

**V. WATER UTILITIES:**

**A. HEAR REPORT ON PROGRESS OF NEW WATER TANK.**

Richard Aillet gave an update on the City's proposed water tank on Memorial Drive with a two million gallon capacity. He said the City will advertise for bids in August for the construction of a new water tank. Aillet added that the new tank will be completed in

about two years and allow the City to add Louisiana Tech University as a customer, improve water pressure and provide more water storage capacity during summer months and added fire protection. There was a discussion about water and sewer rates and Alderman Elmore Mayfield inquired about the potential for water and sewer rate increases. Ed Pittman stated that the matter was being studied and he did expect rates to increase. No action was taken.

**VI. PUBLIC WORKS:**

- A. CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ OF 2009, AUTHORIZING CITY TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SPEARS PARKING LOT.**

Lewis Love was present to discuss the process saying it will take about three months. Motion was made by Alderman Jedd Lewis and seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce to authorize the contract with the lowest responsive, responsible bidder (Mabry Company) for all work described in the construction plans and specifications. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (RESOLUTION NO. 647 OF 2009)

- B. CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ OF 2009, APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF STREET DEDICATIONS.**

Lewis Love was present to discuss the matter. Motion was made by Alderman Jedd Lewis and seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce to adopt the resolution approving the acceptance of street dedications. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (RESOLUTION NO. 648 OF 2009)

- C. CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ OF 2009, AUTHORIZING CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA, TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY AND TO INSTITUTE EXPROPRIATION ACTIONS NECESSARY FOR CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETION OF CORNELL AVENUE/CLAY STREET IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA.**

Motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderwoman Marie Riggs to adopt the resolution authorizing the acquisition of property and expropriation actions necessary in connection with the construction and completion of Cornell Avenue/ Clay Street improvements. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (RESOLUTION NO. 649 OF 2009)

**VII. CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

- A. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 1 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 1 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 5:50 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 5:50 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

- B. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 1 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderwoman Marie Riggs to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**C. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 2 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 2 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 5:52 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 5:52 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**D. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 2 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderman Elmore Mayfield to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**E. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 4 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 4 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 5:53 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 5:53 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**F. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 4 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**G. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 10 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 10 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner. Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 5:54 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 5:54 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**H. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 10 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderman Levell Thurman to approve Dufour’s recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**I. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 16 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 16 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 5:55 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 5:55 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**J. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 16 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderwoman Marie Riggs to approve Dufour’s recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**K. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 17 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 17 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 5:56 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 5:56 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**L. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 17 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderwoman Marie Riggs to approve Dufour’s recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**M. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 18 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 18 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 5:57 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 5:57 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**N. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 18 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderwoman Marie Riggs to approve Dufour’s recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**O. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 21 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 21 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing and has indicated a desire to bring his structure into compliance. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 90 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 5:58 p.m. Property owners, Lynn A. Irvin and Tommy Harp came forward to voice their concerns about the water supply having been cut off for residents at Suburban Mobile Estates. The Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:00 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**P. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 21 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderman Jedd Lewis to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**Q. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 22 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 22 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:02 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:02 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**R. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 22 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jedd Lewis and seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**S. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 23 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 23 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:03 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:03 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**T. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 23 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jedd Lewis and seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**U. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 24 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 24 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:04 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**V. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 24 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jedd Lewis and seconded by Alderman Levell Thurman to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**W. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 26 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 26 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:05 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**X. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 26 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jedd Lewis and seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**Y. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 27 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 27 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:06 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:06 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**Z. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 27 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Levell Thurman and seconded by Alderman Jedd Lewis to approve Dufour’s recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**AA. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 29 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 29 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:07 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:07 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**BB. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 29 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jedd Lewis and seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce to approve Dufour’s recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**CC. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 30 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 30 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:08 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:08 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**DD. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 30 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jedd Lewis and seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**EE. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 35 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 35 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner. Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:09 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:09 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**FF. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 35 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderman Jedd Lewis to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**GG. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 36 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 36 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:10 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:10 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**HH. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 36 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderman Jedd Lewis to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**II. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 37 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation

to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 37 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:11 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:11 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**JJ. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 37 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderman Elmore Mayfield to approve Dufour’s recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**KK. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 38 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 38 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:12 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:12 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**LL. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 38 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderman Levell Thurman to approve Dufour’s recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**MM. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 39 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 39 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:13 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:13 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**NN. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 39 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderman Jedd Lewis to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**OO. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 41 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 41 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:14 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:14 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**PP. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 41 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderman Jedd Lewis to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**QQ. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 44 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 44 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:15 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:15 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**RR. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 44 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderman Elmore Mayfield to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**SS. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 45 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 45 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:16 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:16 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**TT. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 45 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderman Levell Thurman to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**UU. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES OFFICE LOCATED AT 1000 ATKINS ROAD CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Suburban Mobile Estates Office located at 1000 Atkins Road and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:17 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:17 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**VV. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT THE SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES OFFICE LOCATED AT 1000 ATKINS ROAD.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderman Elmore Mayfield to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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**WW. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES LAUNDRY LOCATED AT 1000 ATKINS ROAD**

**CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Suburban Mobile Estates Laundry located at 1000 Atkins Road and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 30 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:18 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:18 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**XX. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT THE SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES LAUNDRY LOCATED AT 1000 ATKINS ROAD.**

Motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderman Elmore Mayfield to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**YY. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF LOT 32 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES CONCERNING ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED THERE.**

Mitch Dufour reported that the Council had previously voted to accept a recommendation to demolish, remove or improve the structure(s) at Lot 32 Suburban Mobile Estates and to start the condemnation process. He reported that the property owner has been notified of the hearing and has indicated a desire to bring the structure into compliance. Dufour recommended that the Council order the structure condemned and set a time frame of 90 days for the owner to demolish, remove or repair the structures and if the owner fails or refuses to comply with the order within the time frame allowed, then the City may proceed with the demolition of the structure with all costs billed to the owner.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:19 p.m. Having no one from the audience to come forward to comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:19 p.m. and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**ZZ. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE ABATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURES LOCATED AT LOT 32 SUBURBAN MOBILE ESTATES.**

Alderman Elmore Mayfield requested that the Council be kept apprised of whether or not progress is being made at the substandard structure clean-up sites. Motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderman Levell Thurman to approve Dufour's recommendation and proceed with the appropriate action. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**VIII. PLANNING AND ZONING:**

**A. PUBLIC HEARING.**

Jim Hays reported that the Zoning Commission had reviewed applicant's request for conditional use permit at 208 West Park Avenue, located in the Historic Downtown District. At their July 20, 2009, meeting the Zoning Commission voted unanimously to recommend that the conditional use application be approved with conditions that the short term goals be completed by the end of 2009 and the long term goals completed by the end of 2011. He stated that Mark Joiner, the City's Building Official, recommends adding requirements to the Conditional Use and the list handed to the Aldermen reads as follows:

1. **Roof replacement to be completed by January 31, 2010.** Since the time this report was prepared, there has been some work done. The initial assessment report recommended that water intrusions be addressed. We believe that the issue of water intrusion cannot be addressed solely by repairs to roof penetrations. We feel that full roof replacement will be needed immediately to insure long-term integrity of the structure.

2. **Updated Assessment Report to be completed by December 31, 2009.** For safety purposes, we require an update on the assessment performed on November 19 and 20, 2008, and that the assessment be signed and sealed by the professional of record.

3. **Installation of an alarm system by December 31, 2009.** Due to the proximity of adjacent buildings and the number of unprotected openings, we recommend that you require a fire alarm system.

4. **No occupancy can begin until all City, State and Federal codes have been complied with.**

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:23 p.m. Dean Norton, property owner, came forward to comment on his plans for renovating the building at 208 West Park Avenue. He also discussed the lengthy process of applying for a Case Number before he will be eligible to receive tax credits during renovations. Mark Joiner, City Inspector, commented on recommendations he made concerning the matter. The Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:30 p.m., and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**B. CONSIDER FOR ACTION CASE NO. 1037-APPLICATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (RENOVATIONS IN THE DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT).**

Case No. 1037: Application for Conditional Use Permit  
Applicant: Dean Norton  
Location: 208 West Park Avenue

Motion was made by Alderman Elmore Mayfield and seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce to approve the application for conditional use permit for 208 West Park Avenue, as recommended by Jim Hays and Mark Joiner. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**C. PUBLIC HEARING.**

Jim Hays reported that the applicant has submitted a proposal to open a mobile audio sales and installation business at 118 West Railroad Avenue, located in the Historic Downtown District. It will be a retail business offering all products dealing with mobile audio systems. He said that the Zoning Commission had reviewed the request at their July 20, 2009, meeting and voted unanimously to recommend approval. Alderwoman Marie Riggs voiced her concern that there would be excessive noise coming from in and around the establishment and asked that the City's Code concerning loud noises be posted in the business.

Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:40 p.m. Richard Marie, owner of the proposed business, discussed concerns of the Council and how they planned to address issues of excessive noise and also agreed to post inside their business the City's Code relevant to loud noises. The Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:42 p.m., and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**D. CONSIDER FOR ACTION CASE NO. 1040-APPLICATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (FOR A MOBILE AUDIO RETAIL BUSINESS IN THE DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT).**

Case No. 1040: Application for conditional Use Permit  
Applicant: Richard Marie  
Location: 118 West Railroad Avenue

Motion was made by Alderman Jedd Lewis and seconded by Alderman Elmore Mayfield to approve the application for conditional use permit at 118 West Railroad Avenue in the Downtown Historic District. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**IX. FINANCE:**

**A. PUBLIC HEARING.**

Emmett Gibbs was present to discuss the millage ordinance. Mayor Hollingsworth called for a public hearing at 6:43 p.m. Having no one from the audience to comment, he closed the public hearing at 6:43 p.m., and called for final consideration by the Aldermen.

**B. CONSIDER AND ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_ OF 2009, LEVYING AND IMPOSING TAXES ON ALL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION IN THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA**

Alderman Jedd Lewis made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jim Pearce, to adopt the ordinance. The title of the ordinance was read, a roll call vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEA: ALDERMAN JEDD LEWIS  
ALDERMAN ELMORE MAYFIELD  
ALDERMAN JIM PEARCE  
ALDERWOMAN MARIE RIGGS  
ALDERMAN LEVELL THURMAN

NAY: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAINED: NONE

The motion passed by unanimous vote. (ORDINANCE NO 1584 OF 2009)

**C. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR BUDGET YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2008 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2009:**

<b>1. From:</b>	General Fund:	<1,164,100>
	Federal Highway Grant 14 4317	<194,984>
<b>To:</b>	General Fund – Street Dept:	
	Capital Assets 140121 5812 29	1,359,084
<b>2. From:</b>	General Fund – Executive	<590,000>
	Capital Assets 120110 5810	
	General Fund – Street Improvement	
	Capital Assets 140121 5812	<1,815,000>
<b>To:</b>	General Fund – Fund Balance	2,405,000
<b>3. From:</b>	General Fund – Fund Balance	<113,718>
	Ambulance Fund – Fund Balance	<12,643>
<b>To:</b>	General Fund – Fire Department:	
	Salaries – Regular 130117 5110	98,500
	Fire Retirement 130117 5124	13,790
	FICA Tax 130117 5129	1,428
	Ambulance Fund:	
	Salaries – Regular 5510 5110	10,950
	Fire Retirement 5510 5124	1,533
	FICA Tax 5510 5129	160

Emmett Gibbs was present to explain the necessity for each budget amendments. Ed Pittman commented on Fire Department salaries during a brief discussion. After a brief discussion, motion was made by Alderman Jim Pearce and seconded by Alderwoman

Marie Riggs to approve the listed budget amendments. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**X. ADJOURN MEETING:**

There being no further business, the meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

**August 17, 2009**  
**APPROVED**

**ATTEST:**

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**EMMETT GIBBS, CLERK**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DAN HOLLINGSWORTH, MAYOR**