SHREVEPORT CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

August 27, 2013

The Committee of the Whole was called to order by Chairman Michael Corbin.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Councilman Shyne seconded by Councilman O. Jenkins for approval. Motion approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmen Rose McCulloch, Everson, O. Jenkins, Corbin, Webb, Shyne, and S. Jenkins. 7. Nays: None.

Awards and Recognition of Distinguished Guests by the Mayor

Awards and Recognition of Distinguished Guests by City Council Members

Communications of the Mayor

Mayor Glover: Yes, thank you Mr. Chairman. Again, I'll recap some of the comments that we offered at the beginning of today's meeting. I want to express appreciation on behalf of the City of Shreveport for all the folks who were involved with the Forrest Wood Cup Fishing Competition that was recently here. The Super Bowl of fishing. From what I can understand yet again, another successful visit by that association to this area, so we commend Kelly Wells and all of his cohorts with the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission for that effort. Also again, want to express great appreciation, as well as great excitement frankly about the gathering that took place this past Saturday at the Skybox on Saturday morning for the update on some aspects of the Master Plan. A briefing on what's coming with the uniform development code, as well as an effort to initiate the formation of the Shreveport Council of Neighborhoods. I think that those are all things that are indicative of some very positive activity that are taking place in this city and extremely excited about it. Also, want to acknowledge and I think before we will gather again, the Annual Telethon for Muscular Dystrophy will have taken place and I look forward to making donations this year in the spirit of our great friend Sammy, who I'm sure we'll hear some from during Public Comments. He'll share with us some of what's gonna be happening, what he's doing. Also, look forward to making a donation in the spirit of Chief Dyas and I think several others who told me that they'd been placed in jail until they raised a certain sum of money towards the MDA Telethon this year, so we want to help them get ultimately bailed out and also, it strikes a little closer to home. Mr. Sibley is away from the chambers right now, but he has a family member who is recently stricken with a diagnosis of Muscular Dystrophy as well, and so this is one thing that we know we see often, we hear about often and ultimately end up having some way of being able to touch us. So I want to encourage all those folks who are so inclined to get to have an opportunity to be able to just make some form of a contribution, some form of a donation. We would ask them to do so and certainly acknowledge all those like Sammy who work very hard throughout the course of the year

to help bring those contributions together and ultimately end up providing them for the MDA. And lastly again, Mr. Chairman, members of the council, I want to thank you all for the vote that you made earlier regarding the water and sewer situation. I know that these types of vote are never easy. This type of process is never easy, but I appreciate the effort and the time that was put in collectively by the council and certainly appreciate the willingness of those of you who sought and saw the need for to move forward and the votes that you cast. So again, thank you and certainly I appreciate your work.

Councilman Corbin: Thank you, Mayor Glover. Councilwoman McCulloch, back to you.

Communications from Council Members

Councilwoman McCulloch: Yes, I was really (inaudible) Mrs. Farnell and I think maybe Roy could help me because it seems like the appeal came to us and we voted to demolish. And so now he's appealed to the court, but he's wanting to get a permit and I'm like well, you want to first hear from the courts first before you consider getting a permit to demolish. But he's saying –

Mrs. Farnell: That's correct. The matter has been appealed to Caddo District Court so it's in litigation and so because he has appealed he will not be able to get a permit pending the resolution on the lawsuit in District Court.

Councilwoman McCulloch: And that's what I was trying to explain to him. He kept saying, well how can I change a roof unless I get a – but he has to wait until –

Mrs. Farnell: Yes, ma'am. If I can, I'll speak with you after the meeting. That way I'll get his name and we'll be able to pull the litigation file and if you'd like, if he is represented then we'll contact his attorney.

Councilwoman McCulloch: Okay, thank you. And okay, since I have the floor, are we down to – where are we Jeff (inaudible) because I don't want to be out of order. Where are we, on No.14?

Councilman Corbin: We are in the Communications from Council Members.

Councilwoman McCulloch: Yes, on Sunday morning I had asked to make the decision not to attend church services at my church vs. that I decided to go to the grocery store around 8:00 a.m. in the morning. Drive to the grocery store around 8:30 and of course I returned back down MLK around the hour of 9 and I noticed there was a very serious accident at the intersection of MLK and Linear Street, which is right around the corner from Hersey D. Wilson. And of course I pulled over and I spoke with one of the constituents. It appeared as if though the vehicle and a motorcycle and I spoke with one of my constituents and she explained. She said, "Well the young lady on the motorcycle, it didn't look too good. I mean I don't know that she's alive." She said, "But the young lady that's in the vehicle, she's sitting right over there." So naturally I always do that, I

mean whomever it is. I had no idea that I would know the person, but of course I walked over to the police car and the senior citizen was sitting in the very back of the police car and it none other than my husband's aunt sitting in the back of the car. And at the end of the day the young lady on the motorcycle was killed. Ms. Charlotte Jean, I think this is Scoff at 4240 Hampton Lane 71107 whom was once a part of my constituency when I served on the Caddo Parish Commission, but I wanted to express my condolences to the Scoff family at the loss of Charlotte Jean Scoff on behalf of the Robinson family, as well as the McCulloch family regarding the loss of their loved one. I'm sure some of you heard that it was – I was hearing that it was City Councilwoman McCulloch's aunt. Yes, it was, but it was my aunt by marriage to the McCulloch family. Of course my husband's mother was a Robins and his uncle married the lady that was involved in the car accident. I'm just so grateful to God that I was able to be there for her at that time because her husband had just recently got out of the hospital and so I was able to go and get him and have him sit with her for a moment until you know, other procedures were followed, but I just wanted to express my condolences to the Scoff family and hopefully I'll have an opportunity to attend those services as well, as soon as I'm made aware of when those services will be held.

Councilman S. Jenkins: Well, I have condolences that I need to pass along also Mr. Chairman to the family of Attorney Alma Jones. Alma served this community as Executive Director of Legal Services for North Louisiana since 1998, 1999. I had the pleasure of working with her as chairman of the board of Legal Services of North Louisiana. Alma passed away suddenly last Tuesday night August 20, 2013 without any warning. It had just been another normal day that she had finished at the office and went home and from my understanding she just went to sleep and did not wake up. It was just a real sudden situation and I did meet with the police and Legal Services this past week. As you know, they were stunned by this news. Her services will be this coming Friday on August 30, 2013. I will be in attendance at those services Mr. Mayor. Let me express my appreciation to you and your office. I understand that I will have a proclamation from your office for her family of Attorney Alma Jones. I cannot begin to tell you the kind of service that Alma gave to this community, not only the legal community, but the community as a whole. As Executive Director of Legal Services, in fact she goes back to the old legal aid society, a nearly double of legal services program where she worked to make sure that persons who could not afford attorneys in civil matters had representation, but she had a passion for that. And one of those rare people that came along who did a job not so much for the paycheck. I know that's important because Alma actually stepped away from a very lucrative practice with non-other than our friend Attorney Jackie Scott, a very lucrative practice to become Executive Director of Legal Services because she had a passion for making sure that everyone had representation in court so I just want her family to know that you're in my thoughts and prayers today and that certainly this – our city and our city government is saddened to learn of her passing and the contributions that she made to our city and to the indigent citizens of our community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Councilwoman McCulloch: Oh yeah, and in addition to the August 30th day, that is my birthday this coming Friday.

Councilman S. Jenkins: Well, happy birthday.

Councilwoman McCulloch: And I want to thank this council for supporting me in the souvenir booklet as well.

Councilman Everson: Happy Birthday.

Councilwoman McCulloch: With my 40th class reunion.

Councilman S. Jenkins: I think she is forty, fortieth birthday?

Councilwoman McCulloch: I think I'm getting to the age now I don't want to tell. I used to tell all the time.

Councilman Corbin: Don't give anything out.

Councilwoman McCulloch: But anyway, I'll be celebrating my 40th class reunion as well as my birthday the weekend of the reunion which is Friday.

Councilman Corbin: Have a good weekend.

Councilman Shyne: Sam, I'll tell you my age. I'm 48.

Councilman S. Jenkins: That doesn't match up with 1910 in boy scouts. I used to be a founder of the boy scouts in 1910.

Councilman Shyne: Oliver came up with that.

Councilman O. Jenkins: I don't know how I got involved in this.

Councilman Corbin: Speaking of Councilman Oliver Jenkins.

Councilman O. Jenkins: I do have an item of business. I have to be distracted from these other interesting points. I'd like to propose September 3rd 4:00 p.m. for the next Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Councilman Shyne: What day is that on?

Councilman O. Jenkins: That is a Tuesday. That is a week from today at 4:00 p.m.

Councilman Shyne: Jackie, you got that? Tell Jackie.

Councilman O. Jenkins: That's his personal secretary. September 3rd That's who puts it on his iPad and on the clouds so he can access it from all his devices. Four p.m. September 3 for a Public Safety Committee Meeting. Unless I hear something

right now that those numbers are not available I'd like to propose that – certainly if for some reason on the Police Department or Fire Department that doesn't work for you, you know, don't hesitate to shoot me an e-mail about that in the absence of anything I've said about the proposal.

Councilman Corbin: Dale, I think we talked about this and it kind of went off my radar and Councilman Sam Jenkins I'm in your district here for a second.

Councilman S. Jenkins: Okay.

Councilman Corbin: That insurance to a possible park, its southeast lot where someone has starting some clearing and they've seemed to have walked away from that project. If we could determine who needs to investigate that and figure out what we can do to get that lot cleaned up a little bit.

Mr. Sibley: We have that and actually Property Standards has been in communication with the owner. Apparently, Dorothy correct me, apparently he allowed the neighbor next door to cut some timber. Initially that neighbor had left it in really bad disarray, but cleaned it up some and Property Standards I know continues to monitor that site because at one point was so bad I think there were a few accidents coming out of the entrance way there at Cockrell (inaudible).

Councilman Corbin: I drove by it last week and I noticed how dry all that dead wood and leaves and all were and that kind of –

Mr. Sibley: Property Standards is on that.

Councilman Corbin: Okay, I believe that brings us to Public Comments. Council will now recognize Mr. Sammy Mears.

Public Comments

Mr. Sammy Mears: (1901 Centenary Blvd. Shreveport, LA. 71101) I'd like to say that Rose, since your birthday is this week I'll be taking the money over to Pierremont Road to give to MDA and they will have their contribution.

Councilwoman McCulloch: On my birthday?

Mr. Mears: On your birthday.

Councilwoman McCulloch: Alright, good.

Mr. Mears: And of course this is going to be 25 years now that I'll be helping MDA so I look forward to watching it about 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. which will be on Sunday night September 1st on KTBS channel 3. So if you tune in you can see those 2 hours of the Labor Day Telethon. They'll have like maybe a ruby, silver and gold star

and last year my name appeared on one of them. You never know. It could happen again. And Jeff I did leave you a message this morning and Oliver and Ron I've talked with because I was very disappointed with Comcast. They are not doing right. Unfortunately, what they have done is they did not send out my cable bill on the 22nd or the 23rd of this month and I usually get my bill around that time to pay my Comcast bill to keep my cable because I like my television as you all know. They have not done that and I spoke to a representative just as of yesterday and they said that they have delayed the bills for whatever reason I'm not sure of, but they said they would get one out to me and whoever they have not mailed them out to. I just wanted to let y'all know I was very disappointed in them and when I found out the lady that was at the Caddo Parish Commission, she was here a few weeks ago I think when she said, "We're going to be upgrading things and making them better." Well, they didn't if I don't get my cable bill. I can tell you that for sure. She reminds too much of when Sophia had the post ring and she wanted to turn water into wine and she goes like, wine and it doesn't happen and then Dorothy told her you stop that and she said, "Well, it was worth a try." So with that being said I just want y'all to know that Comcast has really got me very disappointed. I do hope that I get my cable bill real soon and Ron I know I had to throw that in for you because I know you're going to tell me – you're probably going to say it.

Councilman Webb: No, I'm not going to say it.

Mr. Mears: Well, I know you're going to say you're watching too much TV. Get away from it. Turn on the radio. So I just want you to know that if you were planning on saying that I just wanted to beat you ahead of time to that, but I do want Comcast to start doing a little bit better because when they don't send out people's cable bill to be mailed somebody is going to be very disappointed and one of those people right now is me and that's why I wanted to address this today. Thank you very much.

Councilman Corbin: Thank you, Sammy. Council will now recognize Mr. Lester Smith.

Councilman Shyne: I think Lester left. Mrs. Scott, did he get with you?

Councilman Corbin: Council will now recognize Candace Paul. Let's try for Julian Washington. Council will now recognize Mr. Craig Lee. Craig, we've not seen you in a few weeks.

Councilman Everson: Glad to see you back.

Mr. Craig Lee: (1035 Eustis St. Shreveport, LA) Y'all are being handed out a flyer for the 177th Birthday Celebration for C.C. Antoine. That's coming up next weekend. I wanted to start out by saying this. Tomorrow we kick off actually the first of its kind in America. All inclusive of 10 high schools in Caddo Parish. The class of 1985 Caddo Parish wide reunion; our good Leanis Graham will have an opportunity for her first reunion since she's left Southwood and we found out they were in the same graduating class. We brought this project together to begin the process of impacting the

lives of our children in Caddo Parish throughout. So instead of Fair Park High School having our reunion just solo we brought the other nine schools in the district together. So we kick off on tomorrow with 2 volunteer projects at each of the schools Wednesday and Thursday and on Friday we have our banquet. Saturday, since we don't have the Grambling University of Louisiana Monroe game we came up with a creative project to do an old school Olympics at Ford Park and we close that on Friday so I just wanted to make you all aware of that. Next week again, we're celebrating C.C. Antoine's 177th birthday. This has now become an annual thing. I definitely want to thank the Parish of Caddo for being one of our principle sponsors, along with Walmart, the Tourism Bureau, Eagle Distributing and the State Fair of Louisiana. I also want to recognize to Mrs. Rose McCulloch due to the fact that she's heeded our call and working with Bonnie Moore. Again, they've been able to now leverage 700,000 to go into the Economic Development Initiative for that area so we're inviting all of you guys out. I heard the mayor's going to come out and do some wobble wobble with us and probably ride a horse or two, but we're going to have some great —

Mayor Glover: Indubious.

Councilman S. Jenkins: That's worth the price of a ticket.

Councilman O. Jenkins: I don't see that on the timings here, but if we can identify a specific time I can assure you'll get a good crowd.

Mr. Lee: And it's free. It's free to the citizens of Shreveport, Bossier, Caddo Parish, surrounding areas. One of the things that we want to do to help the city reach the \$30,000,000 grant is to begin to socialize people back into that particular part. Shelly Ragle has been very helpful in terms of SPAR's participations and the State Fair has been very helpful in terms of sponsoring the stage. A lot of times nonprofits don't know that you don't necessarily have to have physical money. You can have any kind of participation like stages and chairs and SPAR's been great at participating with us on that as we seek to sell the second set of bonds and begin the process of renewing the project. The next meeting here I'll be making formal presentation about overall game plan of making C.C. Antoine Park the first cultural sustainability park in the south. That is going to be our offering to the Choice Communities grant piece. We have some offerings that will basically get into sustainable energy so (inaudible) and other things that will make that an attractive area. I'll be getting with Shelly Ragle on that, but if any of your constituents and any of your family members that want to come out next Saturday, feel free to do so. Mark Scroggins and his band plays, will be our close out group; all of our entertainment, local acts that you all definitely need to see so I want to just make you all aware of that. Thank you.

Councilman Corbin: Thank you Craig. And again, it's good to see you back.

Miscellaneous Matters

THE COMMITTEE RISES AND REPORTS:	(Reconvenes Regular	Council
Meeting)		

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:25 p.m.

//s// Michael Corbin, Chairman

//s// Arthur G. Thompson, Clerk of Council