

MINUTES

Livingston Parish March 24, 2022

Pursuant to notice duly posted in the public lobby of the Livingston Parish Governmental Building, the Livingston Parish Ordinance Committee met on March 24, 2022, at the hour of four thirty o'clock (4:30) p.m. in the Parish Council Chambers, located in the Livingston Parish Governmental Building, 20355 Governmental Boulevard, Livingston, Louisiana with the following members present:

Shane Mack
Garry Talbert
Tracy Girlinghouse- Co-chair
John Wascom- Chair

The Chair, Councilman John Wascom, called the meeting to order.

The Chair began by addressing Old Business, item 3a, "L.P. Ordinance No. 22-02, Adopt 2022 Redistricting Plan for the Parish of Livingston".

A **MOTION** was offered by Tracy Girlinghouse and duly seconded by Garry Talbert to recommend approving the redistricting plan for the Parish of Livingston prepared by Mr. Cedric Floyd to the Council. Whereas none opposed the motion passed.

The Chair then addressed item 3b, "L.P. Ordinance No. 22-03: to acquire immovable property for the Parish of Livingston pursuant to the Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program Project Number FMA-PJ-06-LA-2018-025 – Livingston Parish located at 30386 Dawson Lane, Hammond, LA".

A **MOTION** was offered by Tracy Girlinghouse and duly seconded by Garry Talbert to recommend approving this ordinance to the Council. Whereas none opposed the motion passed.

The Chair then addressed item 3c, "L.P. Ordinance No. 22-04: Add Section 125-33, "Building Lines/Setbacks Requirements that are adjacent to State and Federal Highways" and Add Section 125-34, "Safety Requirements of Property Adjacent to State and Federal Highways".

Having been previously discussed and voted on the Chair pulled the item and stated it would be discussed at the Council meeting.

The Chair addressed item 4c, as being old business, "Amend Chapter 125, amend various sections of Chapter 125, "Subdivision Regulations" to ensure that any alterations to project designs are up to date with the current standards to reduce drainage issues and prevent flooding - Garry Talbert".

Councilman Talbert discussed the changes in the definition of 'FONSI,' max lot sizes, and the change in definition of 'under construction.' He went on to further discuss changes made it section 125-2. Authority; purpose.

Councilman Mack asked for clarification on the density limitation. Mr. Talbert further explained and gave an example of decreasing density.

Councilman Talbert continued discussing the changes in his ordinance and stated that 125-9. "Submittals." needed to be updated to reflect the new definition of FONSI. He stated 125-12. "Requirements for minor subdivisions." is a bookkeeping matter. He explained the change in section 125-13. "Procedures for subdivisions with improvements." to state that any changes in a preliminary plat are required to go back to planning and he had stricken what was no longer applicable due to that change. He discussed section 125-23 Building lines and the clerical correction. He continues discussing the stricken section of section 125-25. "Drainage impact study/drainage design requirements." and the changes made in letter (j).

The Chair then had a question about open ditches and curb and gutter which prompted a lengthy discussion.

Councilman Talbert continued discussing the changes in detention basins design (letter (j) and drainage impact studies (letter (k)).

Continuing the explanation of uniform changes in section 125-52. "Mobile home park submittals.", section 125-78. "Generally.", section 125-81. "Commercial development submittals.", and section 125-106. "Generally."

The Chair questioned section 125-78. "Generally." A section of 125-78 was not updated properly in Municode and needs to be amended to reflect the change voted on by the Council to paved surfaces. Councilman Talbert confirmed with Council Clerk, Sandy Teal, that the ordinance would be modified to reflect the appropriate language.

Councilman Talbert called Mr. Deric Murphy to the podium to answer a question about a section of the ordinance that may have been missed. He goes on to explain that the standard is to design for a ten-year (10) rain event, retain for a twenty-five (25) year event, and look at the effects of a hundred (100) year. He is looking to admit the ordinance to say that it will be designed for a ten percent (10%) reduction on the ten (10), twenty-five (25), and one hundred (100) year storm and we will retain for a hundred (100) year. Councilman Talbert stated that if designed for a ten (10) year storm they may flood streets, so it needs to be designed internally for a twenty-five (25) year storm. That is currently not in this ordinance, and he request that change be made and it be added to the ordinance. Mr. Lee Foster from the public approached the podium to discuss Billy Taylor working on some of his projects and previous discussions about utilizing detention ponds greater than what Livingston Parish currently does. The mic then goes inaudible for Mr. Foster. The discussion continues and the Chair clarifies that those changes will be made before introduction to the Parish Council. Further discussion is had, and Councilman Talbert announced that the definition for 'Under construction' will be changed from 'signed' to 'submitted' and section 125-25 "Drainage impact study/drainage design requirements." letter (k) will be reworded from "preformed" to "approved." Mr. Foster questions the definition of 'lot' and the mic goes inaudible. Councilman Wascom stated he was in favor of two (2) lots per acre because three (3) would be more dense.

Councilman Keen approached the podium about density requirements.

Jeremy Aydell approached the podium to support stricter density requirements. Mr. Aydell voiced his concerns about large subdivisions with improvements and section 125-9. He questioned why school impact studies were not done before subdivisions went before planning. Councilman Tracy Girlinghouse stated that the issue would be discussed further down on the agenda. Mr. Aydell voiced his concern for having the data before the approval process.

Councilman Delatte wanted to propose more amendments to the ordinance. He proposed drainage, traffic, school, and fire protection impact studies be done before the preliminaries are submitted to the Council. He proposed that the developers own the property before the project is submitted to the Council. He proposed that developers submit a plan on how the area is going to be provided fire protection. Councilman Delatte spoke on the topic of a moratorium to protect the people of Livingston Parish but did not propose one.

Councilman Talbert continued the discussion with Councilman Delatte on why the Parish requires a traffic impact study on a commercial and multifamily development but not a subdivision.

The Chair asked Councilman Delatte if he was going to put something together for the next ordinance committee meeting stating he thought they would support it.

Councilman Girlinghouse questioned Councilman Talbert on whether the language for the twenty (20) foot buffer zone for detention ponds should be included in this ordinance. Councilman Talbert said the language needed to be added that the pond ordinance and detention pond ordinance should be one in the same. Councilman Girlinghouse said he'd like that clear access be added as well.

Mr. Murphy approached the podium to address that his developments have been designed with a fifteen (15) foot servitude for detention ponds.

Public Input: Deric Murphy, Quality Engineering and Surveying
Lee Foster, DSLD Homes
Councilman Maurice "Scooter" Keen
Jeremy Aydell
Councilman Randy Delatte

A **MOTION** was offered by Shane Mack and duly seconded by Tracy Girlinghouse to recommend this ordinance with the changes discussed to be introduced. Whereas none opposed the motion passed.

The Chair then moved to item 4a, "Ordinance establishing authority to the Livingston Parish School Board in regard to impact studies – Tracy Girlinghouse".

Councilman Girlinghouse stated that he has had discussions with his Livingston Parish School Board representative about having some say in development regarding if the schools could handle additional students from these large six hundred (600) to seven hundred (700) lot subdivisions. He has a meeting on Tuesday with the Livingston Parish School Board to discuss how to approach the situation and come up with a system so that they approve the development before approval.

Councilman Delatte stated, at the podium, that the Livingston Parish School Board currently employees someone, whom reports directly to Superintendent Murphy, responsible for the school impact studies. Councilman Delatte stated the employee is lacking direction from the Council and wanted to clarify to this committee.

Councilman McMorris approached the podium to discuss the schools south of the interstate (French Settlement, Frost, Maurepas) being jammed packed and operating in temporary buildings.

He questioned whether the developers could help build additions to school or look at other avenues to address these problems.

Councilman Talbert stated that he had a meeting about water hydrants and the fire department and the needs of the Parish.

Councilman Keen approached the podium and stated he had a meeting with the Livingston Parish School Board President, Cecil Harris, whom requested a moratorium on building because the school system could not handle the additional kids. He also stated implementing a fee, per lot, to help build schools or make them bigger for the influx in students so that the education standard does not fall around the Parish.

Public Input:

Councilman Randy Delatte
Councilman Gerald McMorris
Councilman Maurice “Scooter” Keen

With no action being taken the Chair having no other business a **MOTION** was offered by Shane Mack and duly seconded by Tracy Girlinghouse to adjourn the March 24, 2022 meeting of the Livingston Parish Ordinance Committee, with no further discussion and where none opposed.

Lauren White, Deputy Clerk

John Wascom, Chairman