

MINUTES

Livingston Parish December 17, 2024

Pursuant to notice duly posted in the public lobby of the Livingston Parish Governmental Building, the Livingston Parish Ordinance Committee met on December 17, 2024, at the hour of six (6:00) p.m. in the Parish Council Chambers, located in the Livingston Parish Governmental Building, 20355 Governmental Boulevard, Livingston, Louisiana with the following members present:

Dean Coates – Chairman
Ryan Chavers
Erin Sandefur
Billy Taylor

The Chairman, Dean Coates, called the meeting to order.

The Deputy Clerk called roll. With all members present, the Chair began by addressing item:

5. New Business:

- a. **LPO No. 24-34:** Amending Chapter 125 “Subdivision Regulations” to update language for the inclusion and adoption of the Livingston Parish Drainage Criteria Manual

Mr. Jack Young with Haff & Associates wanted to speak about both agenda items 5a and 5b. He stated that he spoke about Chapter 115 at the last council meeting and his understanding is that Chapter 125 will be combined with the other Chapter 125 changes that are part of the new Zoning. He states that the intent is to make sure that the Parish is included in the higher standards of the CRS Program. Once the Parish is back in point ratings for the cost of Flood Insurance Policies will save millions of dollars to the residents of this Parish.

Mr. Gary O’Neal stated that every Flood Plane Management Office has a form for communities that want to participate with the NIFP Community. The database gives all the scenarios of what different rates would look like in each community. Mr. O’Neal mentions that if you could get our ratings up it would save homeowners throughout the Parish millions of dollars.

Mr. Young states that they made a few changes in 125 Ordinance that would align with the CRS Manual and the Drainage Criteria Manual which include but not limited to outdated rainfall, five-year storm event, erosion, etc.

Councilman Billy Taylor questioned section 3.1 – it says open channel shall be designed according to the following storm of events with a minimum freeboard of 1 foot. He wanted to know if at the Thursdays Council Meeting, they said that the freeboard would go to 2 foot? Mr. Young stated that this is about forming a channel and not with the actual freeboard of a home.

With no other questions or discussion, the Chair then moved on to agenda item 5c.

5. New Business:

- c. **LPO No. 24-35:** Rescind and Reenact Chapter 117, “Zoning”, which will include the adoption of new parish zoning maps and the adoption of zoning maps for Council districts which do not presently have zoning maps

Mr. Jerome Fournier spoke about how his team has been working on zoning for the past 6-8 months. He stated that the Zoning Ordinance has been published in our Official Journal, and it will be published two more times before it will go in front of the Planning and Zoning Commission. He states that they are not the final authority, the Council is, and he is here to answer any questions that they have. Mr. Fournier explains that they have received numerous requests to have zoning changes for certain property, but they will need to come before the Council in order to have the zoning changed on a piece of land. Councilman Chavers just wanted to clarify that any zoning changes from this point forward will have to be presented to the Council for those changes made. Mr. Fournier also wanted to make sure that everyone knew that the areas that are currently zoned cannot be rezoned in this process.

There was then a lengthy discussion.

Public Input:

Ralph Burgess

Sarah Phares

Jermone Fournier

Councilman John Mangus

The Chair then asked if family partitions were going to be included in Zoning. Mr. Fournier stated that it is not yet, they are working on the land Development Code and are hoping to have that included when it is completed.

With no other questions or discussion, the Chair then moved on to agenda item 5b.

5. New Business:

- a. **LPO No. 24-33:** Amending Chapter 115 “Floods” to update freeboard requirements within the special flood hazard area, incorporate ordinance requirements as recommended by FEMA, incorporation of and inclusion of items in line with the community rating system

Mr. Young thanked the Council for having them to come speak tonight. He stated that they want to update in Chapter 115 to include the higher standards to get the Parish back into Compliance with FEMA. The finished floor in a home will have a freeboard requirement of 2-foot freeboard instead of the 1-foot freeboard. They then moved on to fill dirt. Mr. Young explained that if you are not built on pier and beams that allows the water to flow under the house, you would have to offset the current dirt that sets on the property. He states that the volume of the property will have to remain the same, they may have to grade the land and move dirt off the property.

There was then a lengthy discussion.

Public Input:

Councilman John Mangus

Ralph Burgess

With no other questions or discussion, the Chair then moved on to agenda item 5e.

5. New Business:

- e. Introduction of Ordinance:** Extension of a 12-month moratorium, L.P. No. 24-02, prohibition of submittals for subdivisions with improvements

Mr. O'Neal stated that he would recommend doing a 12-month extension, that way we would not have to keep extending it if they need more time to work on Zoning.

Public Input:

Sarah Phares

Councilman John Mangus

Cindy O'Neal

Councilman John Mangus stated that he did not agree with extending it a full 12 months. He would rather it be extended to July, which is the deadline that they gave of when Zoning would be complete. Mr. Fournier then stated that they are anticipating that everything will be done on time.

A **MOTION** was made by Ryan Chavers and **SECONDED** by Erin Sandefur to send this ordinance to the full Council with a favorable recommendation. Passing

With no other business to discuss, the Livingston Parish Ordinance Committee adjourned their meeting.

/s/ Raven Watts

Raven Watts, Deputy Clerk

/s/ Dean Coates

Dean Coates, Chairman