

TOWN OF ADDIS MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2026 – REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Town Council for the Town of Addis was called to order by Mayor David Toups at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at the Addis Municipal Center. The Pledge to the flag recited.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Toups; Councilmembers Rusty Parrish, Rhonda Kelley, Dustin Hebert, Kevin LeBlanc, Bliss Bernard.

Absent: None

MINUTES:

The minutes of February 10, 2026, regular meeting were approved on a motion by Council Member Hebert; seconded by Council Member Kelley and adopted unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

West Baton Rouge Parish President Jason Manola attended the meeting and addressed the recent flooding event. He reported that Parish drainage crews began monitoring conditions at approximately 10:00 PM on Saturday, March 7th during the rain event, during which multiple obstructions were removed from drainage culverts, including a full-size garbage can. An after-action meeting was held on Monday, March 9th to review the event, noting that significant rainfall totals of 6 to 11 inches are becoming more frequent. Rainfall and stream data, including readings from the Coulee Canal stream gauge, indicated the heaviest concentration of rain occurred in the Port Allen area extending south toward Addis. The Parish's in-house engineer has coordinated with independent engineering firms conducting drainage analyses, providing them with data collected from this event. Immediate mitigation measures were discussed, including upsizing relief overflow culverts to better divert water from the Coulee Canal and increasing efforts to clear debris from bridges and culverts. Additionally, an independent engineering firm is modeling a proposed ditch to divert water from St. Francis Street to Lukeville and into the Stonewall Canal, ultimately directing flow to the Intracoastal Waterway to reduce strain on the Coulee Canal. Long-term solutions under consideration include the development of a retention pond near the Lukeville sewer location to slow water from the Borrivano Ditch, as well as potential diversion canal projects from the Coulee Canal to the Intracoastal Waterway.

Mr. Brian Tate, a resident of 4915 Eudora Drive, addressed the Council regarding a matter encountered while attempting to obtain a building permit from West Baton Rouge Parish for a storage shed as an addition to his shop. He explained that the proposed structure at 4925 Eudora Drive in Addis would encroach upon the required 20-foot rear setback by a few feet and requested that the Council consider granting a variance. After hearing Mr. Tate's request, a motion to add the item to the agenda was made by Council Member LeBlanc, seconded by Council Member Hebert, and adopted unanimously. Following review and discussion, a motion to approve a variance allowing encroachment into the required rear setback was made by Council Member Bernard, seconded by Council Member LeBlanc, and adopted unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

SPRING 2026 – ROCKIN' ON THE RAILROAD: Mayor Toups shared the dates of the upcoming ROCKIN' ON THE RAILROAD events and encouraged everyone to attend and enjoy the music. The events are scheduled for April 17th featuring Rockin' Dopsie Jr. and May 1st featuring Junior Lacrosse Band.

LMA 49TH ANNUAL MUNICIPAL DAY & CRAWFISH BOIL: Mayor Toups advised the Council that the LMA 49th Annual Municipal Day & Crawfish Boil is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5th and Wednesday, May 6th. He stated that a schedule had been provided to each Councilmember in their meeting packet and asked that anyone interested in attending notify him so that registration arrangements can be made.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

JENSEN LEBLANC DAY: Mayor Toups shared that he received an invitation from Our Lady of the Lake Children's Hospital to attend a special celebration recognizing Addis resident Jensen LeBlanc as the 2026 Children's Miracle Network National Champion. The mayor noted that Jensen was selected as one of only 20 children nationwide to serve as a national representative for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and will travel to advocate for children facing medical challenges while sharing his personal story of strength and hope.

Mayor Toups also reported that he attended the celebration along with West Baton Rouge Parish President Jason Manola, Chief Jason Langlois, and City Clerk Jade Simpson. In recognition of Jensen LeBlanc's achievements and positive impact on the community, Mayor Toups presented him with a Key to the City and issued a proclamation designating February 23rd as "Jensen LeBlanc Day."

MONTHLY REPORTS

ENGINEER: DRAINAGE ANALYSIS (HARRIS AVENUE & MAIN STREET): Drainage Engineer Toby Fruge presented the drainage analysis for the Harris Avenue and Main Street project. He reported on the Harris Avenue/Main Street drainage basin and provided an overview of existing conditions, noting that several undersized culverts are located along the north side of Main Street and the south side of Harris Avenue. He stated that modeling has been completed and summarized the recommended improvements.

Mr. Fruge recommended upgrading approximately 830 linear feet of culverts along Main Street, including improvements at 1st Street, 2nd Street, 3rd Street, 4th Street, and 5th Street, as well as additional undersized driveway culverts. The plan also includes regrading the ditch to maintain a consistent slope.

He further recommended upgrading approximately 1,144 linear feet of culverts along Harris Avenue, including improvements at 1st Street and 3rd Street, along with additional undersized driveway culverts, and regrading the ditch for consistent flow.

Mr. Fruge noted that utility relocation will be required prior to construction, including water, gas, sewer, and communications infrastructure. He concluded by providing a ballpark cost estimate for the project ranging between \$700,000 and \$850,000.

Brandon Bourgoyne, P.E., Director of Public Works for West Baton Rouge Parish, advised that the upcoming Acadian Trail project includes sidewalk installation along Harris Avenue, and noted that this should be taken into consideration when determining the drainage project timeline and sequencing. He stated that he would share the plans with Toby for review.

Council Member Kelley also raised an additional area of concern near the north end of First Street by St. Mary Methodist Church, where an undersized culvert is reportedly backing water toward the highway. The Council directed Mr. Fruge to perform additional modeling and surveying of this bottleneck area and to bring back findings for further review.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION: Mayor Toups advised that there was no planning & zoning meeting this month; therefore, no we have no items for review and/or discussion.

PARISH COUNCIL: No report.

POLICE: Chief Jason Langlois reported on the police department's activities for the month of February 2026. The department issued a total of 183 citations and responded to 168 calls for service. There were 7 misdemeanor arrests, 4 felony arrests, and 6 automobile accidents during the reporting period. Misdemeanor arrests included 4 counts of domestic abuse battery, 1 flight from an officer, 1 resisting an officer, 1 warrant arrest, and 1 citation for disobeying a stop sign. Felony arrests included 1 count of domestic abuse battery with strangulation, 1 aggravated assault domestic abuse charge, 1 monetary instrument abuse charge, and 1 warrant arrest.

PUBLIC WORKS & WASTEWATER: Public Works Director Travis Bourgoyne provided the Public Works and Sewer report for the month of February 2026. He reported a total of 52 residential and commercial control panel and tank-related service calls, 32 collection system issues, no sewer plant issues, no new inspections, and 38 Dottie tickets.

He further reported maintenance and repair activities including the replacement of a 5HP grinder at Acadian Crossing #1, replacement of a rotating assembly at Addis Place, and repair of a force main leak on Tullier Lane. Crews also addressed seven jammed grinders at various locations, replaced four grinders within the system, and cleared eighteen jammed pumps in the collection system.

In addition, Public Works operations included routine grass cutting and trash pickup, cleaning and grading of a ditch along Peter Messina/First Street, sidewalk repairs at Monte Vista, Poplar Grove, Little Hope, and Sugar Mill Parkway, and installation of a canopy, benches, and trash receptacle at the park on Clarkland Boulevard.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ACTION ON INTRODUCED ORDINANCES

Jade Simpson read the ordaining clause, after which Mayor Toups opened the public hearing. With no comments offered from the public, the public hearing was closed, and Ordinance 2026-1 was presented to the Council for review and discussion. Council Member Bernard noted that the current ordinances still reference the Addis Volunteer Fire Department and require amendment to reflect the updated intergovernmental arrangement between the Town and the Parish of West Baton Rouge, whereby the Parish provides fire prevention and protection services for residents, buildings, and property within the Town's corporate limits. A motion was then made to adopt Ordinance 2026-1, entitled "*An Ordinance of the City Council of the Town of Addis to amend the Addis Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, 'Fire Prevention and Protection,' Sections 10-2, 10-3, 10-5, and 10-29, to ensure conformity with the intergovernmental agreement between the Town and the Parish of West Baton Rouge regarding fire prevention and protection services.*" was made by Council Member Bernard, seconded by Council Member Hebert, and adopted by the following roll call vote: **Yeas** – Parrish, Hebert, Kelley, LeBlanc, Bernard; **Nays** – None; **Absent** – None; **Abstained** – None.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE 2026-2 (STREAMLINING CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS): Ordinance 2026-2 introduced by Council Member LeBlanc is "*AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ADDIS, LOUISIANA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 8 "CRIMINAL CODE" AND CHAPTER 28 "TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES" WHEREAS, the City Council of the Town of Addis desires to amend the Addis Code of Ordinances, Chapter 8 "Criminal Code," Section 8-1, "State crimes adopted," and Chapter 28 "Traffic and Vehicles," Section 28-1, "State Highway Regulatory Act adopted," to bring fully bring its public safety and law enforcement capabilities into conformity with the provisions of Louisiana's Revised Statutes.*" A Public Hearing will be held on this proposed ordinance at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Town Council to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2026.

ORDINANCE 2026-3 (ANIMAL CONTROL REVISIONS): Ordinance 2026-3 introduced by Council Member Bernard is "*AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ADDIS, LOUISIANA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 6, "ANIMALS" WHEREAS, the City Council of the Town of Addis desires to amend the Addis Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, "Animals," Articles I through VI, to ensure that such ordinances conform to the intergovernmental arrangement between the Town and the Parish of West Baton Rouge, whereby the parish provides animal control services for residents and property within the Town's corporate limits.*" A Public Hearing will be held on this proposed ordinance at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Town Council to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2026.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE:

- i. **Pay Bills Found in Order:** A motion to pay bills found in order was made by Council Member Kelley; seconded by Council Member Hebert and adopted unanimously.
- ii. **Monthly Budget to Actual Reports:** The monthly budget to actual reports were reviewed with no comments.

POLICE: None

PERSONNEL: None

SEWER: None

DRAINAGE: None

BUILDINGS: None

STREETS AND ROADS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Council Member LeBlanc, seconded by Council Member Hebert, to authorize the attendance in Executive Session of Corporal Chris Graves, Chief Jason Langlois, Assistant Chief Ray Lejeune, Clerk Jade Simpson, and Mayor David Toups. The motion carried. A motion was made by Council Member LeBlanc, seconded by Council Member Parrish, to adjourn regular session and enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a police personnel matter involving Corporal Chris Graves. The motion carried. A motion was made by Council Member Kelley, seconded by Council Member Hebert, to return to regular session. The motion carried. Following Executive Session, and upon the recommendation of Chief Jason Langlois, a motion was made by Council Member Hebert, seconded by Council Member Parrish, to ratify the three-day suspension served January 16–18, 2026, and to approve the demotion of Corporal Chris Graves to the rank of Officer II. The motion carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Council Member Parrish; seconded by Council Member Kelley and adopted unanimously.

/s/ Jade V. Simpson
JADE V. SIMPSON, TOWN CLERK

/s/ David H. Toups
DAVID H. TOUPS, MAYOR