

DROUGHT

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lease read. On Saturday, Aug. 26, Winnsboro Fire Department along with other parish fire departments battled not only a blaze on the 200 block of Franklin Street in Winnsboro but the high temperatures, according to Fire Chief Jesse Morris. During the course of fighting the fire, one firefighter was transported for heat related illness and one civilian was transported for smoke inhalation to Franklin Medical Center. Both

were released the same day. "With the current temperatures and dry conditions, it has been extremely dangerous for our first responders here in the parish and across the country," Morris said. The firefighters, first responders and law enforcement officers were working in temperatures above 100 degrees. Meanwhile, wildfires are spreading through parts of Louisiana as the drought continues. The Tiger Island Fire burn-

ing in Beauregard Parish is the largest wildfire in Louisiana's history. The fire covers 33,000 acres, and doubled in size to an estimated 15,000 acres on Friday, Aug. 25. The fire forced the town of Merryville, and its 1,200 residents, to evacuate Thursday night. The fire is one of four major wildfires burning in Louisiana, as of press time and just one of hundreds that have burned in the state this month. The wildfires have led the

Louisiana Department of Health to publish a release urging residents in areas where the fires rage to take precautions to minimize the impact poor air quality can have on their health. "Not everyone exposed to wildfire smoke will have health issues," the release reads. "However, even young, healthy adults can experience serious effects from short-term smoke inhalation. Residents in affected areas and those living outside of the wildfire radius

in neighboring parishes should be aware of the health effects caused by smoke and poor air quality and take precautions." The release goes on to warn: "If you suffer from respiratory or cardiac problems and you are in the proximity of a fire, please consult with your doctor. Regardless of health or age, it is vital to have an evacuation plan, whether threatened by actual fire or the effects of smoke." Gov. John Bel Edwards said

emergency response workers often deal with hurricanes and floods but not fires and drought. "While we're pretty good and practiced at emergency response, not so much on the wildfires," Edwards said. Drought conditions are likely to continue through the week, according to various weather forecasts, which have only slight rain chances until the weekend. Rain chances for the weekend are upwards of 50 percent.

SPEED

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of the matter centered around where cameras would be operated, with Police Chief Tyrone Coleman expressing a desire to have cameras in neighborhoods and Mayor Alice Wallace saying she favored the photo enforcement on highways only. Johnson raised questions during the meeting Monday night about where MT would be stationed and whether MT would be outside the city limits. Scott Fuqua, chief executive officer of MT, who was present for the meeting, did not give a specific answer about where the company's enforcement units would be located. He did say, however, that his agency would work where directed by the town. Wallace asked earlier about neighborhood enforcement. "My only question is, will this be in any of the neighborhoods?" Wallace asked. "No, it's your system, so I don't control that," Fuqua said. "It's controlled by you guys." She then asked for additional clarification and said she just wanted to make sure it was "highway stuff." "That's correct," Fuqua said. "Just where are your officers or whoever is going to be run-

ning these things going to be set up as far as Winnsboro is concerned?" Johnson asked "You tell me where you want me to go and how you want me to enforce it," Fuqua said. "I can't write anything (under) a 12-mile violation," Fuqua said referring to the town's request regarding at what point citations would be issued. He also denied they would set up speed traps. Fuqua also told members of the Town Council that the company would not just set up in areas where more citations could be issued. "We're not just going to set up in your hot spots," he said. Johnson posed a direct question, asking, "Are y'all going to set up inside the city limits with your radar?" Fuqua answered, "Yes sir." Fuqua also said they would be visible and that signs would be posted alerting drivers of their presence. "They are going to see us. They can see the signs," he said. Referring to the placement of signs, Fuqua said they had to be within 500 feet of enforcement, "no more than 500 and no less than 250 feet."

Wallace also questioned how the public was to be notified that the electronic enforcement was in place. Fuqua said he thought it was to be posted in the paper, but wasn't sure. As of press time Tuesday, The Franklin Sun had not received a request from MT to publish any public notices regarding the company's presence for traffic enforcement. He also said there would be a public awareness campaign. After some discussion, Wallace said there had been discussions before and said they wouldn't go over the entire matter again. But Johnson took exception. "We should be allowed to ask him any question that we want to ask concerning this. We're fixing to turn all this speeding deal over to him, and we should know what his intentions are." Johnson noted that a part of U.S. 425 on the south end of the town was inside the city limits while the opposite side was not. Wallace asked Attorney Tab Singer, who said he had asked Fuqua to attend the meeting, to answer questions about the contract, if the company had met DOTD requirements.

"They will," Singer said. Singer said everything was in order "once certain things are done." Singleton said he was fine with it (the contract) and said anyone who was speeding should get a ticket. He offered the motion to approve the contract with a second by Swayzer. According to the contract approved by the Town Council, the agreement can be terminated by either party by giving a 90-day written notice of termination. Under the contract, MT agrees to provide services including personnel, equipment and signage "as detailed in city ordinances and DOTD Policy." MT also agrees to provide a system to allow on-line access to vehicle owners to review the photo evidence and see answers to "frequently asked questions" as well as schedule mitigation hearing dates and make payments. MT is to provide "an authorized law enforcement officer (employed by MT) in a police vehicle" and "approved temporary signs" as required by DOTD policy as well as complying with local, parish, state and federal requirements "if

applicable." In exchange for providing the photo traffic enforcement services, MT is to receive 40 percent of revenue collected, while the town gets the balance, keeping 40 percent for the town and allocating 20 percent to Ward Seven Court, known as Winnsboro City Court. The company is also to carry not less than \$500,000 in liability insurance with the city a named insured and to hold the city harmless for "liabilities incurred in the collection of the photo evidence." In another matter related to city law enforcement, Johnson questioned a proposal to authorize payment for repairs to a 2016 Chevrolet Silverado which Council member Rex McCarthy had recommended not go into surplus property, but instead be repaired. The matter was presented to the Council by Capt. Jerry Davis on behalf of Coleman who was absent due to attending Police Academy training. "Is the first notification that the council has received on how much it was going to cost to get that truck repaired?" Johnson asked. Davis said that question

would have to be referred to the police chief. "I've heard nothing about the repairs to this Silverado until now," Johnson said. "It's my understanding you've already got it repaired, and now y'all are bringing it by us to approve it. That's not quite the way I think the thing is supposed to be done. I think we're supposed to approve it, and then you go get it fixed." When Swayzer stated that the matter had been discussed previously, Johnson agreed, but said nothing was said about the cost. "We did talk about it, we did. But nobody told us it was going to cost \$12,000 to fix it. We never got any type of figure," Johnson said. "That's kind of getting the cart before the horse," he said. At that point the mayor entertained a motion. Singleton made the motion and Swayzer seconded. Johnson voted no. Also related to the Police Department, the Town Council agreed to hire Tricoya Montgomery as a dispatcher on the recommendation of the police chief. Montgomery was introduced during the Monday night meeting.

GIVENS

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dential properties in Baskin. "That is very important regarding our constituents and our home owners insurance," Curtis said. "Those ratings are extremely important to our town." Meanwhile, Curtis said the first few months of his term was mainly focused on cleaning up the village and now his administration was in a "resto-

ration phase." Part of the phase has been the purchase of new American flags that will run along La. Hwy 15 and side streets. The village continues to accept flag donations and money to purchase flags or poles. "We are taking any donations and if you would like to make a donation in honor of somebody that would be

great," Curtis said. Recently, officials partnered with Leadership Franklin volunteers. The group has offered to paint park equipment before construction begins in mid-September by Womack & Sons from Harrisonburg. In May, aldermen awarded Womack & Sons the contract to construct the new playground which has been funded

mostly by a \$125,000 grant. Adding to the total, is \$47,000 of local funds. Additionally, Curtis said he was still holding true to a campaign promise of bringing a Council On Aging satellite office to Baskin. "When it cools down, we will go house to house and see who is interested in having a satellite (office)," Curtis said. According to the mayor, the

village must have at least 30 people 65 or older interested in the program which would offer them hot meals, conversation and games. "We have people that live in Baskin that will drive to the Crowville feeding center," Curtis said. "I feel like they should be able to use this right at home." The village has also applied

for two grants, one for trash bins for the upcoming park and one for welcome signs at both ends of Baskin. Upcoming events occurring in Baskin are Baskin Boo Festival at the park on Oct. 28; Breakfast With Santa on Nov. 11 at the Sawmill Venue; and Christmas In The Village on Dec. 9.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE
The Franklin Parish Section 8 Program will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, October 12, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m. located at 6558 Main St. Winnsboro, La 71295 to receive comments and input on the 5 Year/Annual Plan for the Voucher Programs required by the United States Department of housing and urban Development.
Trena Honeycutt
Franklin Parish Sec 8
8/30

NOTICE
Anyone knowing the whereabouts of James Richard Martin who lived in Monroe, West Monroe or Winnsboro, Louisiana in 2007, please contact M. Randall Donald, Attorney at Law, 129 Julia Street, West Monroe, Louisiana 71291, (318) 322 8442, email mrdlawoffice@gmail.com.
8/30, 9/6

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR PUBLIC HEARING
City of Winnsboro, Louisiana
The City of Winnsboro will hold a public hearing at 5:30 p.m. on September 18, 2023 at the Winnsboro City Hall located at 501 S Main Street, Winnsboro, LA. The purpose of the meeting is to obtain views on the housing and community development needs of the City of Winnsboro and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2024/2025 Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program. The following items will be discussed at the hearing:
A. The amount of funds available for proposed community development and housing activities;
B. The range of activities available that may be undertaken, including the estimated amount of funds proposed to be used for activities that will benefit persons of low and moderate incomes;
C. The plans of the City of Winnsboro for minimizing displaced persons as a result of activities assisted with such funds and the benefits to be provided by the City of Winnsboro to persons actually displaced as a result of such activities; and,
D. The City of Winnsboro past performance on LCDBG projects funded by the State of Louisiana.

All residents, particularly those of low and moderate income and residents of slum and blighted areas of the City of Winnsboro are encouraged to attend this meeting.
Accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and/or limited English proficiency provided that three (3) days' notice are received by the City of Winnsboro.
Those citizens unable to attend this hearing may submit their views and proposals until September 18, 2023 in writing to:
Alice Wallace, Mayor
City of Winnsboro
501 S. Main Street
P. O. Box 250
Winnsboro, LA 71295
8/30

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Sealed bids for the following will be received by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Procurement Section, 1201 Capitol Access Road, 4th Floor, East Wing Room S-447, Headquarters Administration Building, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, Telephone number (225/379-1444) on date(s) shown below, until 10:00 A.M. No bids will be accepted after this hour. At 10:00 A.M. of the same day and date, they will be publicly opened and read in Headquarters Administration Building, 4th Floor, East Wing S-447. Evidence of authority to submit the bid shall be required in accordance with R.S. 38:2212 (A)(1)(c) and/or R.S. 39:1594 (C)(2) (D).
BIDS TO BE OPENED September 14, 2023
DOTD Contract-Preform Thermo Marking (Statewide Contract) RFX 3000021722
Full information may be obtained upon request from the above address.
The Department reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities.
ERIC KALIVODA,
SECRETARY, LADOTD
JULIE KENNISON, CPPB
DOTD PROCUREMENT DIRECTOR

8/30

NOTICE
I am applying to the Office of Alcoholic Beverage Control of the state of Louisiana for a permit to sell beverages of low content at retail in the Parish of Franklin at the following address: 7730 Gilbert Street, Gilbert La 71336 Boone's One Stop.
Signed by Owner Adam Hutto, Justin Hutto
8/30

NOTICE
Parcel No. 8700824800
Current Owner/ Resident
Roy Wallace or Estate of Roy Wallace
Roy Wallace or Estate of Roy Wallace c/o Sharon Mays

THIS NOTICE BY PUBLICATION IS NOTIFICATION THAT YOUR RIGHTS OR INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY LOCATED IN FRANKLIN PARISH, LOUISIANA MAY BE TERMINATED BY OPERATION OF LAW IF YOU DO NOT TAKE FURTHER ACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW:
Legal Description: Lots 6 & 7 of Block 9 of Abe Lincoln Addition to Winnsboro, La, Section 31, Township 14 North, Range 4 East
Municipal Address: 121 Avis Street, Winnsboro, LA
Tax sale title to the above described property has been sold for failure to pay taxes. You have been identified as a person who may have an interest in this property. Your interest in the property will be terminated if you do not redeem the property by making all required payments to the tax collector listed below or file a lawsuit in accordance with law within sixty (60) days of the date of the first publication of this notice, or the recording of an act transferring ownership, if later.
Franklin Parish Tax Collector
6556 Main Street
Winnsboro, LA 71295
318-435-4505
8/30

The Franklin Sun

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