



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS MEETING
CITY OF THIBODAUX
CITY HALL
THIBODAUX, LOUISIANA
December 27, 2023**

The Board of Adjustments of the City of Thibodaux assembled in regular session at its regular meeting place, City Hall, 310 West 2nd Street, Thibodaux, Louisiana, Wednesday, December 27, 2023 at 5:30 P.M.

There were present: Marguerite Erwin, Rudy Soignet, Clarence Savoie, and Renee Brinkley

Also present: Monique Reulet, Sonya Cabrera, Josh Bourgeois, Kevin Clement, Trey Waguespack

Absent: Malcolm Hodnett

There was a quorum present.

The minutes of the October 25, 2023 Board of Adjustments meeting were approved as written.

YEAS: Erwin, Soignet, Savoie, & Brinkley

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Hodnett

Erwin introduced a request by Beau Barbera/High Tide Consultants on behalf of John Deere Thibodaux, Inc to vary 0.5ft from the required parking stall width of 10ft and vary 2ft from the required parking stall length of 20ft for the relocated parking areas on John Deere Campus located at 244 Highway 3266 in Thibodaux, Louisiana.

Beau Barbera, 700 Canal Blvd, was present to represent the request. He stated that the goal is to remove all parking outside of the fence to install a new service line and have more “lay down” area. Their proposal would allow them to maintain the current number of parking spots after relocating them. He added that John Deere is not a public space, and that they only occasionally have visitors, with the majority of traffic being employees and contractors.

Erwin questioned if all other requirements would be met, like sightlines. Barbera confirmed this, stating that they took that into consideration when planning and made sure the 90 degree parking spots would have wider aisles. Brinkley asked if the purpose was to increase the number of spots or just relocate spots. Barbera said that, if they are granted the variance, they would be able to maintain the current number of parking spots after they relocate them. SOignet questioned security. Barbera stated that the fence would be moved and all parking would be outside the gate. This was at the request of John Deere Corporate office. Each gate would have turnstiles for people to go through before actually entering the plant. Brinkley asked if liability was something they were thinking about, as John Deere would not be liable for any incidents that happen in the parking areas outside the fence. BARbera stated

that this was a factor in the design, because they would be able to better monitor people coming in through the turnstiles.

Shane Guin, 700 Canal Blvd, added that being able to have card readers at the turnstiles would allow John Deere to better control and monitor access. Brinkley asked if this would inconvenience the employees, as they would have to park farther from the buildings, especially if there is inclement weather. Barbera stated that it would not be a major problem. Once inside the buildings they can get to whatever areas they need. Guin stated that the main reason for this project is that John Deere needs more "lay down" area. Savoie asked if there was going to be security inside the fence or outside for the parking area. Guin stated that there would be card readers at each turnstile and monitors in the parking areas. Mayor Clement asked if pretty much anyone could get in now. Guin said yes, so these changes would make it more secure and easier to monitor. Barbera noted that it is not currently conducive for the guard at the gate to check 300 plus vehicles every day.

Guin added that DOTD will overlay the road in front of the plant and turn over ownership to Lafourche Parish. There will also be turning lanes added to make it safer for people trying to enter the plant.

On call for City comment, Public Works Director Josh Bourgeois stated he had no objection to this request.

On motion of Savoie, seconded by Brinkley, the Board voted on a motion to approve the request by Beau Barbera/High Tide Consultants on behalf of John Deere Thibodaux, Inc to vary 0.5ft from the required parking stall width of 10ft and vary 2ft from the required parking stall length of 20ft for the relocated parking areas on John Deere Campus located at 244 Highway 3266 in Thibodaux, Louisiana.

.....Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Erwin, Soignet, Savoie & Brinkley
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: Hodnett

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.