

**Town of Lockport  
Lockport, Louisiana**

**Minutes of Regular Meeting August 16, 2022**

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at 6:00PM, at the Lockport Town Hall Complex.

**A. Call to Order B. Opening Prayer C. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Paul Champagne called the meeting to order. The meeting was streamed through Facebook Live. The opening prayer was offered by Mandy Himel. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Champagne.

**D. Roll Call**

The roll was called with the following present: Mayor Paul Champagne, Councilmembers: Ernest Boudreaux, Tyler Detillier, Bobbie Galjour, and Rodney Hartman. Councilman Acosta was absent. Also present were Town Clerk Mandy Himel, Police Chief David Harrelson, Jr., Town Attorney Chris Huddleston, Dona Breaux, Brett Hebert, Becky Robichaux, Claude Richardel, and Barry Plaisance.

**E. Approval of Minutes for July 19, 2022 Regular Meeting**

Mayor Champagne asked for approval of the minutes for July 19, 2022. Councilman Detillier made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

**F. Approval of Financial Statements for month ending July 31, 2022**

Mayor Champagne asked for a motion to accept the financial statements for the month ending July 31, 2022. Councilman Boudreaux moved, and Councilman Hartman seconded a motion to approve the financial statements as presented. It carried unanimously.

**G. Public wishing to address the Council**

1. Brett Hebert, Lockport Carnival Club, asked the council for permission to add to the current Mardi Gras parade route. Councilman Detillier made a motion to approve the new route. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
2. Rebecca Robichaux announced she is running for District Judge.
3. Barry Plaisance announced he is running the Mayor of Lockport.
4. Claude Richardel announced he is running for School Board Member.

**H. Police Report**

Mayor Champagne called on the Chief to report on the department's activities. A motion was made by Councilman Boudreaux and seconded by Councilwoman Galjour to accept the police report as presented. It carried unanimously. Chief Harrelson asked to remove two reserve officers and one part-time officer from the payroll roster. Councilman Detillier made a motion to approve this termination. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Councilwoman Galjour made a motion to allocate \$35,000 for a new outfitted police unit for the Chief, and the town will piggyback on the verified contract with Jefferson Parish Police Department. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Councilman Hartman made a motion to allow the clerk to transfer ARP funds from LAMP to purchase the unit. Councilwoman Galjour seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**I. Providence Report**

Mayor Champagne called upon Ms. Caillouet, she presented the monthly engineering status report as follows:

1. **SE Quad Service Linings:**  
BLD started work on August 8<sup>th</sup>. They must be substantially complete prior to October 6<sup>th</sup>.
2. **Comeaux Drainage Improvements:**  
This project is estimated to cost \$4.4 million and would be shared between four entities.
3. **Church St./School St. Drainage Improvements:**  
The banks of the canal between Church and School Streets are unstable. Due to structures being located adjacent to the canal, there is not enough room for construction equipment on either side of the canal nor will contractors take the risk of driving sheet pile so close to the structures. Therefore, one option is for the construction equipment to work from the canal itself by installing concrete arch pipe and rolling on top of it to install the next section. The option is estimated at \$2.24 million. It was presented to Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1 (LPDD1) and they requested additional options.

Councilman Hartman made a motion to go into executive session. Councilwoman Galjour seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**J. Executive Session**

1. 1. In accordance with LA RS 42:19A(1)(b)(iii)(aa) and RS 42:17(A)(2), the Mayor and the Town Council hereby give notice of their intent to enter into an executive session to discuss the case of Edward Reinhardt, Plaintiff, v. The Town of Lockport, Louisiana, Lockport Town Council, Rodney Hartman, Ernest Boudreaux, Bobbie M. Galjour, Gary Acosta, Tyler Detillier, and Interim Mayor Paul

Champagne and Christopher John Huddleston, Defendants, Case No. 2:22-cv-00761, Section M, Division 3 of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

2. In accordance with LA RS 42:17(A)(4), the Mayor and the Town Council hereby give notice of their intent to enter into an executive session to report on investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct.

Councilwoman Galjour made a motion to go back into regular session. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Mr. Huddleston gave a brief summary of what took place in executive session.

**K. Call for public hearing to adopt an ordinance to amend the budget**

Councilman Hartman made a motion to call for public hearing. Councilman Detillier seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Councilman Detillier made a motion to go into public hearing. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**L. Public hearing to discuss adopting an ordinance to amend/update the personnel policy handbook**

Mayor Champagne and the town attorney presented some suggestions. Discussion took place. There were no comments from the audience.

Councilwoman Galjour made a motion to get out of public hearing. Councilman Detillier seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**M. Reports**

1. Mayor Champagne stated the new Fema housing location on/near McCloud Rd has been terminated. He informed the Council that the town purchased a new culvert/sewer cleaning machine. He is entertaining quotes to get the roof repaired at the boat museum. He also mentioned appraising and surplusng the boat museum and playhouse. Discussion took place. Mayor Champagne has no update on the town trucks. He is working with Providence to get the park up and running.

2. Council

- a. Councilwoman Galjour asked about ipads.
  - b. Councilman Hartman asked for an update about body cameras for the police department.
  - c. Councilman Boudreaux spoke with the insurance commissioner about insurance claims. He asked about the sewer cleaning/culvert cleaning machine. He mentioned the sewer force main on Catherine Street.
  - d. Councilman Detillier talked about the park and surplusng the boat building and playhouse. He mentioned an area on Catherine and Pine that has been damaged by garbage trucks. Mayor Champagne stated the town foreman is looking into that issue.
3. Mr. Chris Huddleston stated the town will start enforcing the rv/camper ordinance. Permits will be required for a six-month extension. This does not apply to Fema housing.
  4. Staff- No report

**N. Adjourn**

The next scheduled regular Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 20, 2022. There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion by Councilman Boudreaux to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Councilman Detillier. It carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:11 PM.

/s/ Paul Champagne  
Paul Champagne, Mayor

/s/ Mandy Himel  
Mandy Himel, Town Clerk