

**Town of Lockport
Lockport, Louisiana**

Minutes of Regular Meeting February 15, 2023

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 6:00PM, at the Lockport Town Hall Complex.

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

Mayor Barry Plaisance 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 Plaisance.

D. Roll Call

The roll was called with the following present: Mayor Barry Plaisance, Councilmembers: Ernest Boudreaux, Gary Acosta, Rodney Hartman, Tyler Detillier, and Bobbie Galjour. Also present were Town Clerk Mandy Himel, Police Chief David Harrelson, Jr., Town Attorney Chris Huddleston, Dona Breaux, and Ernest Savoie.

E. Approval of Minutes for January 17, 2023 Regular Meeting

Mayor Plaisance asked for approval of the minutes for January 17, 2023. Councilman Detillier made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilman Acosta seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

F. Approval of Financial Statements for month ending January 31, 2023

Mayor Plaisance asked for a motion to accept the budget to actual financial statements for the month ending January 31, 2023. Councilman Hartman moved, and Councilman Boudreaux seconded a motion to approve the financial statements as presented. It carried unanimously.

G. Audit Report- Pernel Pellegrin, Martin and Pellegrin

Mr. Pellegrin presented the audit report for year ending June 30, 2022. There were no findings this year, and the Town of Lockport is in good standing.

H. Public wishing to address the Council

1. Mr. Ronnie Rogers, Catherine Street, addressed the Council about issues with his neighbor.
2. Mr. Daniel Lorraine, E 176th Street, addressed the Council about the upcoming election and road sales tax.

I. Police Report

Mayor Plaisance called on the Chief to report on the department's activities. A motion was made by Councilman Detillier and seconded by Councilwoman Galjour to accept the police report as presented. It carried unanimously.

J. Providence Report

Mayor Plaisance called upon Mr. CJ Franklin, he presented the monthly engineering status report.

1. **Sewer Monitoring:** The sewer monitors are reactivated
2. **Comeaux Drainage Improvements:** *(No change since last month.)*
3. **Church St./School St. Drainage Improvements:** *(No change since last month.)*
4. **MWPP Audit and Annual Sludge Report:**
The MWPP Audit is complete, and a resolution is on the agenda that needs to be included with the submittal. It must be submitted by April 1st each year.

K. Lockport Carnival Club

Mr. Brett Hebert asked the Council for permission for the Krewe of Apollo to roll on February 18, 2023 @ noon. Councilman Boudreaux made a motion. Councilman Acosta seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

L. Proclamations

1. **National School Counseling Week- February 6-10, 2023**
2. **Retired Teacher's Day- March 16, 2023**

Councilman Acosta made a motion to accept the proclamations. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

M. Authorize the Mayor to sign the generator maintenance contract with Industrial Power Systems, LLC.

Councilwoman Galjour made a motion. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

N. Resolution 2023-01 to adopt the MWPP Audit Report

Councilman Hartman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-01. Councilman Detillier seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

O. Appeals for extension of hardship permits

1. Johnny Fonseca, 232 School Street, addressed the Council about a permit extension. Discussion took place. There was no motion to grant the extension because Mr. Fonseca didn't meet the criteria for the extension according to the ordinance.
2. Elta Ardoin, owner of the property at 1216 Elizabeth Street, addressed the Council about a permit extension. Discussion took place. Councilman Detillier made a motion to grant an extension until August 1, 2023 because she qualified under the stipulations of the hardship permit ordinance. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

P. Discuss drainage issue at 392 Comeaux Drive

Mayor Plaisance explained to the Council about the drainage issue. This was caused by the garbage trucks. Councilman Acosta made a motion to allow the town to replace this culvert since it was blocking drainage. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion. Councilmembers Galjour and Hartman voted yes. Councilman Detillier did not vote due to stepping out of the meeting room at the time of the vote.

Q. Resolution to surplus Lot D on Main Street

Councilman Boudreaux made a motion to surplus Lot D on Main Street. Councilman Acosta seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

R. Discuss issues with the sales of the Boat Museum and the Bayou Playhouse.

Mayor Plaisance informed the Council that the property for the Bayou Playhouse has to be surveyed in order to sell it. He also informed them that the Boat Museum is part of the Brownfield Project, and it will follow the town indefinitely unless some agreements are made with new owners. The deck in the back of the Boat Museum has to be maintained regularly. It has to be fixed or replaced. The suggestion is to replace it with concrete so it will be a more permanent solution, and it will be easy to maintain. The town will check with DEQ on how to handle the situation. Discussion took place. Councilman Boudreaux made the motion to move forward with sending a letter to DEQ and replacing the deck with concrete. Councilman Acosta seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

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

S. Public hearing

1. Adopt ordinance 2023-02 to amend the Code of Ordinances, Town of Lockport, Louisiana, to add Section 16-8 to provide for and regulate a community service litter abatement work program. No discussion took place.
2. Adopt ordinance 2023-03 to amend the Code of Ordinances, Town of Lockport, Louisiana, to amend Section 2-88 to revise the general fee schedule for public records requests. No discussion took place.

Mayor Plaisance asked the public three times for comments. There were none.

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

T. Adopt Ordinances

1. Adopt ordinance 2023-02 to amend the Code of Ordinances, Town of Lockport, Louisiana, to add Section 16-8 to provide for and regulate a community service litter abatement work program. Councilman Hartman made a motion to accept this ordinance. Councilman Detillier seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
2. Adopt ordinance 2023-03 to amend the Code of Ordinances, Town of Lockport, Louisiana, to amend Section 2-88 to revise the general fee schedule for public records requests. Councilwoman Galjour made a motion to accept the ordinance. Councilman Acosta seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

U. Call for public hearing

To adopt an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances, Town of Lockport, Louisiana, to add Section 48-97 to provide for structural design requirements and provisions for support and anchoring systems for manufactured homes in accordance with the HUD Code. Councilwoman Galjour made a motion to call for public hearing. Councilman Detillier seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

V. Reports

Mayor Plaisance reported the gazebo and pavilion roofs are repaired at the park. The pine trees were removed at the park, and one tree on Barataria was trimmed. The lighting will be the next thing to repair. The window frame on the Boat Museum has been repaired, and we are waiting on the glass. Several of them attended the LMA Conference in Baton Rouge. He met with a representative from Riverbirch about the damaged culverts due to the garbage trucks. They have agreed to pay to repair/replace them. There is a new ac unit at the sewer plant that has been installed. The generators that were not functioning for a while are almost all operational. The new forklift was delivered February

8, 2023. He met with the Sheriff's office about trustees helping the town when and where needed. He thanked the people who were sent notices that have cleaned up their properties.

2. Council

a. Councilman Acosta announced there will be an event at the Military Museum at 11:00am on March 25, 2023. He hoped people understood there was no favoritism shown to anyone in regards to the hardship permit extension. He briefly mentioned the issue on Catherine Street between neighbors.

b. Councilman Boudreaux thanked everyone for coming and have a safe Mardi Gras.

c. Councilwoman Galjour asked about the property on Justin Street. Mayor Plaisance briefly discussed this issue. She talked about the Lockport Parade.

d. Councilman Hartman thanked Councilman Daniel Lorraine for addressing the Council.

e. Councilman Detillier reiterated what Councilman Acosta stated about the hardship permit extensions. They are enforcing the ordinances that are in place. He talked about the Lockport Parade as well. He asked about the lights in the park. Mayor Plaisance explained the position that the town is in with the lighting replacement and costs. Councilman Detillier talked about the spay/neuter event that took place in town. Mayor Plaisance thanked Ms. Hilary Detillier for her assistance with this event.

3. Town Attorney- No report.

4. Staff- The town clerk mentioned the meeting she attended with Mayor Plaisance and other elected officials and community leaders within the parish regarding additional FEMA funds. The Town of Lockport has qualified for about \$79,000.00.

W. Adjourn

The next scheduled regular Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2023. There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion by Councilwoman Galjour to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Councilman Acosta. It carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:35 PM.

/s/ Barry Plaisance
Barry Plaisance, Mayor

/s/ Mandy Himel
Mandy Himel, Town Clerk