

**Town of Lockport
Lockport, Louisiana**

Minutes of Regular Meeting April 18, 2023

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 18, 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. Mayor Plaisance asked for a moment of silence for LPSO Sergeant Nick Pepper who was killed in the line of duty. 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, Rodney Hartman, and Gary Acosta. Councilmembers Detillier and Galjour were absent. Others present were Town Clerk Mandy Himel, Police Chief David Harrelson, Jr, Town Attorney Chris Huddleston, Dona Breaux, Jenny Bordelon, Jeff Gamble, Karen Gamble, and Jack Plaisance.

E. Approval of Minutes for March 21, 2023 Regular Meeting

Mayor Plaisance asked for approval of the minutes for March 21, 2023. Councilman Acosta made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

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

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

G. Police Report

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

H. Providence Report

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

1. Sewer Monitoring (540-021):

Two sewer monitors were repaired with replacement parts on March 14th and the other two (power pack and ebox) were repaired on March 21, 2023. The replacement parts were under warranty.

2. Comeaux Drainage Improvements: (No change since last month.)

3. Church St./School St. Drainage Improvements: (No change since last month.)

4. Road Evaluation: Road evaluation will be completed this week. A report will be forthcoming

I. Proclamations

1. Child Abuse Prevention Month- April 2023 Councilman Acosta made a motion to accept the proclamation. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

2. MPS Day- May 15, 2023 Councilman Hartman made a motion to accept the proclamation. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

J. Public wishing to address the Council

1. Mr. Jeff Gamble, Elliot Drive, addressed the Council about the upcoming fundraiser and wanted updates on the boat building. Ms. Vicki Eserman was present for the same topic.

2. Ms. Jenny Bordelon asked the Council for permission to allow the Lion's Den to host a 5K Color Run in the Town of Lockport on May 6, 2023. Councilman Acosta made a motion to allow this event in town. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

K. Adopt Millage Rate for 2023 General Alimony Tax

1. Adopt Resolution 2023-02 to adopt 2023 General Alimony Tax Councilman Boudreaux made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-02 to adopt millage rate for the 2023 General Alimony tax. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Yeas: Boudreaux, Hartman and Acosta. No: None, Abstained: None, Absent: Detillier and Galjour.

Councilman Boudreaux made a motion to go into public hearing.

L. Public Hearing

1. Adopt Ordinance 2023-05 to sell surplus immovable property (the "Boat Building") owned by the Town of Lockport, State of Louisiana, located at 202 Main Street for the minimum price of NINETY-NINE THOUSAND (\$99,000.00) DOLLARS and upon the terms as described in the Ordinance. Councilman Boudreaux made a motion to call for public hearing. No discussion took place.

2. Adopt an Ordinance 2023-06 to sell surplus immovable property known as the “Playhouse” and Lot D (the parking lot) owned by the Town of Lockport, State of Louisiana, located at 101 Main Street for the minimum price of THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND (\$32,000.00) DOLLARS and upon the terms as described in the Ordinance. No discussion took place.
3. Adopt an Ordinance 2023-07 to revise the planning and zoning commission ordinances for the Town of Lockport, Chapter 36, Article II, to re-establish a volunteer planning and zoning commission appointed by the mayor and to provide rules for its purpose and powers, terms of office and filling of vacancies, meeting rules, and consultants. No discussion took place.
4. Adopt Ordinance 2023-08 to revise the subdivision ordinances for the Town of Lockport, Chapter 42 to revise the town’s subdivision procedures to clarify the procedure and to add an administrative approval process for certain minor modifications. No discussion took place.
5. Adopt Ordinance 2023-09 to revise the zoning ordinances for the Town of Lockport, Chapter 48, Article IX, to re-establish a volunteer Board of Adjustment who shall be the members of the planning and zoning commission; to provide for the board’s authority; and to provide the procedure for appeals and court review. No discussion took place.

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

M. Adopt Ordinances

1. Adopt Ordinance 2023-05 to sell surplus immovable property (the “Boat Building”) owned by the Town of Lockport, State of Louisiana, located at 202 Main Street for the minimum price of NINETY-NINE THOUSAND (\$99,000.00) DOLLARS and upon the terms as described in the Ordinance. Councilman Acosta made a motion to adopt ordinance. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

2. Adopt Ordinance 2023-06 to sell surplus immovable property known as the “Playhouse” and Lot D (the parking lot) owned by the Town of Lockport, State of Louisiana, located at 101 Main Street for the minimum price of THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND (\$32,000.00) DOLLARS and upon the terms as described in the Ordinance. Councilman Boudreaux made a motion to adopt ordinance. Councilman Acosta seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

3. Adopt Ordinance 2023-07 to revise the planning and zoning commission ordinances for the Town of Lockport, Chapter 36, Article II, to re-establish a volunteer planning and zoning commission appointed by the mayor and to provide rules for its purpose and powers, terms of office and filling of vacancies, meeting rules, and consultants. Councilman Boudreaux made a motion to adopt ordinance. Councilman Acosta seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

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5. Adopt Ordinance 2023-09 to revise the zoning ordinances for the Town of Lockport, Chapter 48, Article IX, to re-establish a volunteer Board of Adjustment who shall be the members of the planning and zoning commission; to provide for the board’s authority; and to provide the procedure for appeals and court review. Councilman Acosta made a motion to adopt ordinance. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

N. Call for a public hearing for lease renewals between the Town of Lockport and the following:

1. Lafourche Parish Sheriff’s Office (current lease expires June 30, 2023)
2. Lafourche Parish Assessor’s Office (current lease expires June 30, 2023)
3. Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court’s Office (current lease expires June 30, 2023))
4. Christopher J. Huddleston (current lease expires June 30, 2022)

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

O. Call for public hearing

1. To hear public comments on an ordinance to amend the fiscal year 2022-2023 Town of Lockport Budgets.
2. To hear public comments on an ordinance to adopt the fiscal year 2023-2024 Town of Lockport Budgets.

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

P. Call for public hearing to discuss/adopt an ordinance to change election of council seats from divisions to elected at large. Councilman Acosta made a motion to call for public hearing. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Q. Reports

a. Mayor Plaisance stated the pavilion lighting at the park is complete. We started the next phase which is the overhead and decorative lighting. He said we have collected funds from FEMA, and everything else has been obligated. The windows at the boat building have been replaced. The town dye tested ditches, and we will continue to dye tests throughout the town. He thanked Parish President Archie Chaisson and DPW Director

Dillion Baronne for allowing the town to borrow their culvert cleaner. We are still working with Entergy to repair street lights. He announced April 22, 2023 is Bayou Lafourche Cleanup Day. He also announced April 20, 2023 from 7am to 1pm, It's What We Do Ministries will have a can shake on Crescent Ave to raise money for their food bank. He welcomed back Dollar General. He welcomed a new business, Tienda Latina, Hispanic Marketplace. He also talked about the backup generator for lower Catherine Street. He gave an update on Justin Street.

b. Council

1. Councilman Acosta thanked the Mayor and town workers for cleaning out ditches/culverts. He also mentioned La Fete Du Monde will take place April 21, 22, and 23,2023. He asked for people to support the local organizations.
2. Councilman Boudreaux thanked everyone for coming. He stated the Mayor and town workers are doing a great job cleaning ditches and getting the equipment needed to do this.
3. Councilman Hartman thanked everyone for coming.

c. Town Attorney Chris Huddleston gave a report about the nuisance/junk and code violations in town. He stated there were over 40 notices that were sent out. He expressed the importance of coming to court or contacting the town if you receive a notice from the town. There were 10 notices sent out for condemnation which are the structures in the worst state.

d. Staff- No report.

R. Adjourn

The next scheduled regular Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion by Councilman Acosta to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Councilman Boudreaux. It carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 6:43PM.

/s/ Barry Plaisance
Barry Plaisance, Mayor

/s/ Mandy Himel
Mandy Himel, Town Clerk