

**Town of Lockport
Lockport, Louisiana**

Minutes of Regular Meeting August 15, 2023

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 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, Tyler Detillier, and Gary Acosta. Councilmembers Rodney Hartman and Bobbie Galjour were absent. Others present were Town Clerk Mandy Himel, Police Chief David Harrelson, Jr, Town Attorney Chris Huddleston, Dona Breaux, Alan Badeaux, Shelia Danner, Jesse Danner, Camille Griffin, Earl Lennie, Cy Toups, Jenny Hanley, and Joe Chauvin.

E. Approval of Minutes for July 18, 2023 Regular Meeting

Mayor Plaisance asked for approval of the minutes for July 18, 2023. Councilman Acosta 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, 2023

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

G. Public Wishing to Address the Council

1. Camille Griffin, owner of the Bayou Playhouse, asked the Council for permission to hold an event called the Playhouse Arts Market. Councilman Acosta made a motion to allow this event with road closures. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
2. Herbert Plank, East Main Street, asked for an update on status of the Locks.

H. Police Report

Mayor Plaisance called on the Chief to report on the department's activities. A motion was made by Councilman Boudreaux and seconded by Councilman Detillier to accept the police report as presented. Councilman Detillier asked for an update on the hiring process. The Chief stated they are still recruiting. It carried unanimously. Chief Harrelson talked about community relations and his future plans for Christmas events in the town. The department would like to sponsor Christmas at the Bayouside Park and keep the traditions of the tree lighting event. He also announced Night Out Against Crime will be held on October 3, 2023 at Town Hall.

I. Engineering Report

GIS presented a report to the Council. T Baker Smith presented a report to the Council.

J. Report on LWRA Smoke Test performed on August 8 and 9, 2023.

Mayor Plaisance gave report on the sewer leaks that were found in town by LRWA.

K. Authorize the Mayor to purchase culverts from Allemand's Culverts at an estimated cost of \$10,000.00. Councilman Acosta made a motion. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

L. Authorize the Mayor to sign the amended agreement from the Louisiana Department of Treasury for the Hurricane Ida funds. Councilman Acosta made a motion. Councilman Detillier seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

M. Discuss and finalize amended proposed Section 10-2 Raising livestock ordinance.

Councilman Detillier suggested five animals instead of the original ten. Discussion took place. Dona Breaux, Mat Champagne, Alan Badeaux, Jenny Hanley, Nancy Badeaux, Laura Plank, and Jesse Danner expressed their opinions and concerns with this proposed ordinance. None of them were in favor of this ordinance.

N. Ms. Wendy Thibodeaux, Lafourche Parish Tax Assessor

Ms. Thibodeaux talked about her accomplishments throughout the years and her bid for reelection.

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

O. Public hearings

- 1. Adopt Ordinance 2023-16 to amend Section 32-20 of the Code of Ordinances to provide for operating hours of the Weldon “Chunky” Triche Bayou Side Park and to provide penalties for violations.** There was no discussion.
- 2. Adopt Ordinance 2023-17 to amend Section 46-6 of the Code of Ordinances to remove several four-way stop signs around town.** There was no discussion.
- 3. Adopt Ordinance 2023-18 to change the Lafourche Parish Tax Assessor lease from one year to six months.** There was no discussion.

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

P. Adopt Ordinance 2023-16 to amend Section 32-20 of the Code of Ordinances to provide for operating hours of the Weldon “Chunky” Triche Bayou Side Park and to provide penalties for violations. Councilman Acosta made a motion. Councilman Detillier seconded the motion. Discussion took place. It carried unanimously.

Q. Adopt Ordinance 2023-17 to amend Section 46-6 of the Code of Ordinances to remove several four-way stop signs around town. Councilman Acosta made a motion. Discussion took place. Councilman Boudreaux seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

R. Adopt Ordinance 2023-18 to change the Lafourche Parish Tax Assessor Lease from one year to six months. Councilman Boudreaux made a motion. Councilman Acosta seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

S. Reports

1. Mayor Plaisance spoke about the LMA Convention. He met with Senator Kennedy’s staff along with other parish and town officials at the parish office. He thanked the town maintenance crew, Mike St Pierre, Mark Allen, and Allen Eschette, for doing a good job in the brutal heat. *Love Lockport Day* will be October 7, 2023 from 8am to 12pm. He spoke to DOTD about the company canal bridge and Rita bridge. He stated there was a crew who came in to trim trees around town. He and the town clerk attended a grant funding meeting in Houma with LITACorp. He addressed the privately owned campers and FEMA trailers/campers. He approved four hardship permits. He asked the community if they see something to report it to town hall so we can continue to be proactive. He has been in touch with Parish President Archie Chaisson, Councilman Armand Autin, and Mr. Mitch Orgeron about funding for several projects in town. He wished all the candidates good luck in the upcoming election.

2. Council

- Councilman Acosta wish Ms. Griffin the best of luck with her event. He stated they were there to support her. He also told the Chief it was a great idea to bring Christmas back to the Bayouside park. He offered his help to him. He thanked the engineers and the Mayor for everything they are doing.
- Councilman Boudreaux asked about the trash and the trash pickup around town. He asked the Mayor about the drainage ditch on Church Street. Mayor Plaisance addressed this future project. He thanked the Chief for trying to bring Christmas back to the park.
- Councilman Detillier spoke about communication. He said he is all in on Christmas at the Bayouside Park as well. He also addressed Ms. Griffin about her upcoming event at the Playhouse. He also talked about future events in the Town of Lockport. He gave suggestions for things needing to be done for *Love Lockport Day*.

3. Town Attorney- No report.

4. Staff- The town clerk gave a report on the notices she sent out relating to grass, campers, blighted properties, etc.

T. Adjourn

The next scheduled regular Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 19, 2023. There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion by Councilman Detillier to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Councilman Acosta. It carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:21PM.

/s/ Barry Plaisance
Barry Plaisance, Mayor

/s/ Mandy Himel
Mandy Himel, Town Clerk