

**Town of Lockport  
Lockport, Louisiana**

**Minutes of Regular Meeting September 17, 2019**

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 7:00PM, at the Lockport Town Hall Complex.

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

Mayor Edward Reinhardt called the meeting to order. The opening prayer was offered by Mandy Himel. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Reinhardt.

**D. Roll Call**

The roll was called with the following present: Mayor Edward Reinhardt, Councilmembers Stephen Baudoin, Sharon Guidry, Bobbie Galjour, Wayne Bourgeois, Jr., and Rodney Hartman. Also present were Town Clerk Mandy Himel, Town Attorney Chris Huddleston, and Police Chief David Harrelson, Jr., Dona Breaux, Mark Rodriguez, Scott Guidry, and Charlene Rodriguez.

**E. Approval of Minutes for August 20, 2019, Regular Meeting**

Mayor Reinhardt asked for approval of the minutes for August 20, 2019. Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilman Baudoin seconded the motion. Small discussion took place on the length and cost of the minutes. It carried unanimously.

**F. Approval of Financial Statements for month ending August 31, 2019**

Mayor Reinhardt asked for a motion to accept the financial statements for the month ending August 31, 2019. Councilman Hartman moved, and Councilman Bourgeois seconded a motion to approve the financial statements as presented. It carried unanimously.

**G. Proclamations**

1. Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to accept proclamation. Councilman Baudoin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

2. Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Councilwoman Galjour made a motion to accept proclamation. Councilwoman Guidry seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

3. Disability Awareness Month

Councilman Baudoin made a motion to accept proclamation. Councilman Bourgeois seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**H. Police Report**

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

**I. Providence Report**

Mayor Reinhardt called on Mr. Clay Breaud of Providence, who gave the monthly engineering status report as follows:

1. **Comeaux/Catherine Street Drainage Improvements:**

Lien period is over. Waiting on the contractor to submit the clear lien certification and application for payment of retainage.

2. **Infiltration Investigation:**

Approximately 1,700 feet of gravity main has been eliminated because major infiltration is not a concern in these areas. Submitted three quotes for CCTVing 27 services in the Southeast Quadrant.

Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to accept the quote from BLD in the amount of \$8,675.00 for CCTVing. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to pay the annual renewal for the Smart Covers. Councilwoman Galjour seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Councilman Hartman made a motion to go into public hearing. Councilwoman Guidry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**J. Public Hearing**

1. Discuss an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances, Town of Lockport, Louisiana, to adopt a fee for subdivision applications. Small discussion took place. Mayor Reinhardt asked the public three times to address the council. No one answered.

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

## **K. Ordinances**

1. Adopt an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances, Town of Lockport, Louisiana, to adopt a fee for subdivision applications.

Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to adopt above ordinance as presented. Councilman Baudoin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

## **L. Public Wishing to Address the Council**

1. Mr. Mark Rodriguez, 103 Myrtle Delaune Drive, addressed the council about his support of the police department and the budget. Mayor Reinhardt stated the town's side of the budget never really changed for any proposed budget. He didn't take \$43,000 and give it to the town side. He said \$43,000 stayed in the fund balance. He said this is what we are trying to work on. He said its not about raises.. He said when talk about raises, the chief knows he has to request raises. He does not have to cut anyone. He said the chief can look at his line items, and he can adjust them the way he wants. He said they can get raises. He said the chief said they have not gotten raises in five years. Mayor Reinhardt stated that is not David's fault. He said if he looks at his lines items, he can make adjustments. He said it is not the Mayor that can give raises to the police department. Mayor Reinhardt said he adjusted to make things happen. Mr. Rodriguez asked about the past budget that was proposed in June. Mayor Reinhardt stated the council turned that down not the Mayor, and he had proposed taking out of the fund balance for the police department. He is waiting for more suggestions from the council because he didn't make a new proposal yet. Mayor Reinhardt stated he likes the police department like everyone else, but every job is dangerous and important. Mayor Reinhardt stated he did not cut the police department, but he made a balanced budget. He stated ten years from now, we won't have a town if we keep taking out of the fund balance. Mayor Reinhardt stated he was addressed about a finance committee. He has already done that with Councilmen Baudoin and Hartman, the town clerk, and himself. He said he is not giving up. They are all trying to do a good job. Councilman Bourgeois stated it is a process. He will do whatever it takes to fund the police department because the town utilize them. Councilman Baudoin elaborated on Councilman Bourgeois' statement. Mr. Rodriguez also asked about some issues with a business in town. Discussion took place.

2. Mr. Bobby Griffin, 903 Catherine Street, addressed the council about his issues with 18 wheelers and garbage trucks on the town's streets. He talked about the fire department and station as well. He also addressed the police chief about his issues with his neighbors.

## **M. Reports**

1. Mayor

Mayor Reinhardt briefly talked about the budget. He thanked Councilman Baudoin for his suggestions and digging through the budget. The Mayor stated we are looking into those things right now. He wants to get this budget wrapped up. He said everyone has their own opinion. He said it is all about money, and how we are going to budget it. He can't see anyone being let go from the police department. He said we have to balance it out and help everyone out. He told Councilwoman Guidry he has already had a committee meeting when she accused him of not wanting to form this committee and follow the suggestions of the auditor. The meeting consisted of Councilman Baudoin and Councilman Hartman, the town clerk, and himself. Councilwoman Guidry stated in the last meeting she felt they would be best people to work on finance. Councilman Bourgeois stated there is no communication. The Mayor asked them for suggestions to help with the budget. He mentioned the Comeaux/Catherine Street drainage project. He talked about the handicap swing that he has been working on for about nine months.

2 Council

a. Councilman Baudoin mentioned the budget. He looked at year end numbers. He mentioned cutting on town side and police side. He wants to keep the services, and he does not want to increase unless they absolutely have to.

b. Councilwoman Guidry mentioned emails between her and the Mayor. She suggested to true form a finance committee. The Mayor said we already did this, and it didn't work. The Mayor stated before they did hiring and other things, they should have looked at the budget. He said they are all at fault for that.

c. Councilwoman Galjour thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. She doesn't think we can do it one year. She feels the friction in this council. She said we need to figure out what our goals are and get on the same page.

d. Councilman Hartman talked about the article in the Daily Comet. He said it is very embarrassing. He said his brothers and sisters on the council have decided they don't want any cuts in the police department. He said we need to have stability in this whole situation. Councilman Baudoin stated the article wasn't entirely factual.

e. Councilman Bourgeois asked about permit training with the parish. He talked about permits. He asked about Spook in the Park. He said he will start setting that up. He mentioned zoning. He asked if the town crew can go fix a pothole on Lafourche and Ninth Street. He said the La Fete Des Vieux is October 4, 5, and 6, 2019 is coming up over the overpass in Raceland. He told the Mayor he will try to get with him on the budget. Discussion took place about adopting the budget.

3. Town Attorney- no report

4. Staff- no report.

## **N. Adjourn**

The next scheduled regular Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion by Councilwoman Galjour to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Councilwoman Guidry. It carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 9:10PM.

Town of Lockport

/s/ Edward Reinhardt  
Edward Reinhardt, Mayor

/s/ Mandy Himel  
Mandy Himel, Town Clerk