

**Town of Lockport
Lockport, Louisiana**

Minutes of Regular Meeting September 22, 2020

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 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, Bobbie Galjour, Wayne Bourgeois, Jr., and Rodney Hartman. Councilwoman Guidry was absent. Also present were Town Clerk Mandy Himel, Town Attorney Chris Huddleston, and Police Chief David Harrelson, Jr.

E. Approval of Minutes for August 18, 2020, Regular Meeting

Mayor Reinhardt asked for approval of the minutes for August 18, 2020. Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilman Baudoin seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

F. Approval of Financial Statements for month ending August 31, 2020

Mayor Reinhardt asked for a motion to accept the financial statements for the month ending August 31, 2020. 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. Councilman Baudoin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

3. Disability Awareness Month

Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to accept proclamation. Councilman Hartman 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 Councilman Baudoin to accept the police report as presented. It carried unanimously. Chief Harrelson stated National Night Out Against Crime is cancelled for this year. He also stated the Blue Mass is next Tuesday. It will be live streamed on social media.

I. Providence Report

Mayor Reinhardt called on Ms. Melanie Caillouet of Providence, who gave the monthly engineering status report as follows:

1. Infiltration Investigation:

All services on Elizabeth Street between Crescent Avenue and Third Street (if it was extended) have been videoed. Two of the services were missed on the initial videos and were redone on September 8, 2020. Other than these two services, the videos were reviewed, and a letter sent to the Mayor with recommendations. See the attached letter. I will amend the letter after receiving and reviewing the last two services.

Repairs need to be made by the Town at four locations. Three residents need to have repairs made and these are the largest of the problems found. The Town will need to obtain three quotes and the contractors meet the LDEQ requirements for the repairs to be reimbursed by LDEQ.

Southwest Quadrant Monitor Moves:

1. 02/11/2020: Fourth Street on School, Ethel, Elizabeth, and Catherine.
2. 05/20/2020: Second Street on School, Ethel, Elizabeth, and Catherine.
3. 05/27/2020: Last three manholes on Elizabeth (left Cat and 2nd where it was).
4. 06/03/2020: Last three manholes on Ethel (left Cat and 2nd where it was).
5. 06/16/2020: Last three manholes on School (left Cat and 2nd where it was).
6. 07/08/2020: All four on Catherine (2nd, 4th, 6th, and 7th St. intersections).

Based on the rain events since the last move, it appears that the problem on the Lower Cat quadrant is occurring where we are currently CCTVing. The backups appear to be starting at 4th Street.

2. Capital Outlay Request:

Requests are due on November 1, 2020. Last year Lockport requested \$1.5 million to put culverts in the canal between School and Church Streets and \$2.52 million for the replacement of the culverts between Catherine Street and Comeaux Drive.

Mayor Reinhardt asked Ms. Caillouet if there is any way we can get the sewer issues done quicker as far as the sewer leaks besides using the cameras to find the infiltration issues. She stated no, not that she can find. Councilman Baudoin asked if there was any data to support the efforts and the work that has been done has actually accomplished something. He asked if there were statistics or numbers. Ms. Caillouet said yes. The town used to bypass, and now, there are no bypasses. Councilman Bourgeois asked if that was the line that was going to be increased in diameter or an additional in Phase 5. She said the fear was, if we didn't fix the infiltration first, then, we would push even more water through the plant. This would have caused problems with the plant. Councilman Bourgeois asked if Phase 5 still needs to be in existence, or do they feel that Phase 4 will be sufficient, and the money that was dedicated to Phase 5 can go to Phase 4 to quicker resolve the other issues. She said, ideally, get rid of Phase 5 and use it for Phase 4. She said they need to find infiltration issues, but she can't promise we won't need Phase 5. Mayor Reinhardt asked about the putting more water in the plant with the bigger line. She said it would be the same amount of water in shorter time frame. Councilman Bourgeois asked about the possibility, if it is overfilling, of a temporary retention tank. She said that would be the most effective way to get it to the plant and not inundate the plant. Mayor Reinhardt stated that would be a big expense, and she said yes. Councilman Bourgeois asked about the manhole on Comeaux Drive and the infiltration.

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

J. Public Hearing

a. To consider levying additional or increased millage rates without further voter approval or adopting the adjusted millage rate after reassessment and rolling forward to rates not to exceed the prior year's maximum. Ms. Wendy Thibodeaux, Lafourche Parish Tax Assessor, addressed the council about reassessment year, millage rates, explained rolling forward for millage rates, effects on businesses and residents in town, etc. Mayor Reinhardt stated the budget was just brought up. He stated we go months without passing a budget. Every little dollar helps the town, whether it is to fund the police department or other things. He stated the council has to decide what is best for the citizens of the town. Discussion took place.

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

K. Resolutions

1. Adopt Resolution 2020-06, ADOPTING THE ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATE FOR 2020 TAX YEAR. Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to accept this resolution. Councilwoman Galjour seconded the motion. Roll call votes was taken YEAS: Baudoin, Galjour, Hartman, and Bourgeois. NAYS; None Abstaining: None. Absent: Councilwoman Guidry was absent.

2. Adopt Resolution 2020-07; ORDINANCE WHICH SETS FORTH THE ADJUSTED MILLAGE RATE AND ROLL FORWARD TO MILLAGE RATES NOT EXCEEDING THE MAXIMUM AUTHORIZED RATE FOR 2020 TAX YEAR. No motion was made. Roll Call vote was taken: YEAS: None. NAYS: Baudoin, Galjour, Hartman, and Bourgeois. Abstaining: None. Absent: Councilwoman Guidry.

3. Adopt Resolution 2020-08; Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for year ending of June 30, 2020 Councilman Hartman made a motion to accept resolution. Councilman Bourgeois seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

L. Reports

1. Mayor Reinhardt talked about sewer repairs. He stated he talked to Representative Joe Orgeron and Senator Mike Fesi about the Comeaux Drive drainage project. Mr. Fesi is eager to move on this to help the town. With all of their help and backing it up, it seems brighter than it did before. He said it is a process, and they will try to help us get the money faster. He said we are going to keep plugging away with this project, no matter who is sitting behind the desk, so we can get the help for those people. He said the mosquito spraying machine needed to be repaired. It was already in the budget for this year. We will begin spraying for mosquitos soon.

2 Council

a. Councilman Baudoin asked about contacts for utility contacts for the town. The council discussed a street light request. They decided to table the request until they get more information.

b. Councilwoman Galjour asked about the status of new businesses in town.

c. Councilman Hartman thanked everyone for coming.

d. Councilman Bourgeois stated the Blue Boot Organization would like to put some life rings at the bayou side park for added safety. Mayor Reinhardt stated he doesn't see any problem with that, and it would be a plus. Councilman Bourgeois brought up trick or treating in the town. They all agreed trick or treating should go on, and the parents can make that decision how they see fit. He also asked on behalf of the Grand Marshalls about the Christmas Parade. They all agreed the parade should go on, and people should take the proper precautions. This is set for Saturday, December 5, 2020.

3. Town Attorney-Mr. Huddleston informed the council of a collections issue with the town, and he said it was a conflict of interest. He asked the council to give authority to the Mayor to hire another attorney to look into this issue as close to his rate as possible. Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to allow this. Councilwoman Galjour seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

4. Staff- no report.

M. Public wishing to address the council

1. Mr. Gary Acosta, 218 Orange Street, asked if one of the organizations can install a fence around the monument to prevent any further damage. Councilman Bourgeois made the motion to allow this. Councilwoman Galjour seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. He also informed the council what Bayou Chapter 9 will be doing to help veterans in the area such as bringing them to doctor's appointments. The council allowed them to keep the van at town hall.

N. Adjourn

The next scheduled regular Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 20, 2020. There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion by Councilman Hartman to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Councilwoman Galjour. It carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 8:51PM.

Town of Lockport

/s/ Edward Reinhardt
Edward Reinhardt, Mayor

/s/ Mandy Himel
Mandy Himel, Town Clerk