

**Town of Lockport
Lockport, Louisiana**

Minutes of Regular Meeting August 21, 2012

The Mayor Pro Tem and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 21, 2012, at 7:00PM, at the Lockport Town Hall Complex.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Paul Champagne called the meeting to order. The opening prayer was offered by Town Clerk Danielle Williams. Mr. Champagne asked for a moment of silence to reflect on the passing of Mayor Richard Champagne. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Champagne.

D. Roll Call

The roll was called with the following present: Mayor Pro Tem Paul Champagne, Councilmen Donovan Barker, Rodney Hartman, Craig Rogers, and Weldon Triche. Also present were Town Attorney Mitch Theriot and Chief of Police Warren Vedros.

E. Approval of Minutes- July 16, 2012

Mr. Champagne asked if there were any corrections or comments concerning the minutes of the July 16, 2012, meeting that were distributed to the Councilmen. Councilman Rogers made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Barker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

F. Approval of Financial Statements for the month ending July 31, 2012

Mr. Champagne asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the financial statements for the month ending July 31, 2012, that were distributed to the Councilmen. Ms. Williams noted the two franchise agreements from AT&T that were added to the revenues in the General Fund. Councilman Rogers inquired if the Town has a new franchise agreement with Vision Communications for Eatel. Mr. Theriot answered that there is not a new franchise agreement with Vision Communications. Councilman Rogers moved and Councilman Hartman seconded a motion to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Appoint Interim Mayor

Councilman Rogers made a motion to defer this item until after Agenda Item V, Citizens Comments. Councilman Triche seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

H. Appoint Interim Councilperson

Due to no council seat being vacant, a motion was made by Councilman Hartman and seconded by Councilman Rogers to table this item. The motion carried unanimously.

I. Police Report

Mr. Champagne called on Police Chief Warren Vedros to report on his department's activities. Chief Vedros distributed copies of the monthly activity report. Councilman Rogers moved and Councilman Triche seconded a motion to accept the police report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

J. GSE Report

Mr. Champagne called on Clay Breaud of GSE, who gave the monthly engineering status report, as follows:

1. Wind Hardening of Town Hall Complex:

Substantial completion inspection was recorded on June 26, 2012. The contractor is waiting on FEMA to approve a change order for a storm door and to close out from FEMA funding. All work is complete.

2. Comeaux/Catherine Street Drain Culvert Repair:

The contractor will remove a building that is on the servitude in order to replace a deteriorated section of pipe. Significant rainfall has caused this project to be delayed. The contractor will begin culvert replacement next week.

3. LGAP Grant:

The Town has applied for sewer rehab work along Vacherie Street. The Town was awarded \$12,234. The Town needs to identify the scope of work to be done for this project.

4. School and Second Street Drainage:

The contractor has installed pipe across Second Street and the driveway. The contractor has not completed the paving of Second Street and the driveway.

5. Sewer Infiltration Analysis:

CES has completed their assessment of sewer lines in the southeast quadrant of Town. GSE has prepared a map showing infiltration points and a preliminary budget to complete repairs in this quadrant. CES is preparing a cost analysis for the other three quadrants. GSE is assisting the Town in preparing an application to DEQ for funding to complete repairs of the entire Town. GSE prepared a cost analysis by prorating findings from the assessment of sewer lines in the southeast quadrant of town to the remaining quadrants.

Councilman Rogers mentioned that it was his understanding that the money spent on the funding could be reimbursed by the DEQ loan. Councilman Rogers inquired about the loan status. Ms. Williams replied that Dr. Appeaning recommended the Town apply for the maximum amount the bond attorneys say is affordable, and if less money is needed, the loan can be written down. Councilman Rogers made a motion to begin the process to apply for funding from DEQ. Councilman Barker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

K. Louisiana Rural Water- Gene Simon

Mr. Simon presented the 2012 Energy Conservation System of the Year South award to the Town of Lockport for its energy conservation efforts. Louisiana Rural Water began working with the Town in 2008, when they began smoke testing sewer lines to find infiltration sites and repair those sites so that the sewer lift stations do not draw so much energy.

L. Cancer Crusaders

Mr. Champagne called on Monica Hoffpauir, Team Captain for Cancer Crusaders. Ms. Hoffpauir asked permission to host a 5k run in the Town of Lockport on October 21, 2012, at the Bayou Side Park. Last year's event was very successful, raising \$18,853. She explained that all proceeds go directly to the American Cancer Society. Ms. Hoffpauir explained that Relay for Life is coordinating this effort with the Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office and the Bayou Runners Association. Councilman Rogers made a motion and Councilman Triche seconded the motion to allow Cancer Crusaders to host a 5k Fun Run and Fun in the Sun Day at the Bayou Side Park. The motion carried unanimously.

M. Public Restrooms Company-Chuck Kaufman

Mr. Kaufman presented proposals for two bathroom facilities based on the needs of the Bayou Side Park. Mr. Kaufman explained each proposal and welcomed questions from the Council and audience. Councilman Triche asked if the pad site could be elevated by hauling in and compacting dirt. Mr. Kaufman answered that the site can be raised, but it presents a safety hazard. Mr. Breaud added that he did not feel the site needs to be raised. Councilman Rogers sought affirmation that the Town is only responsible for is the footing for the pad. Mr. Kaufman replied that the Town is responsible for connections for sewer, water, and power, to put the foundation in and to give Public Restrooms Company clear access to the site for a crane. Councilman Rogers thanked Mr. Kaufman for flying in from Nevada. Mr. Champagne also thanked Mr. Kaufman for visiting the park and answering all questions.

N. Proclamation- Constitution Week

Mr. Champagne introduced a Proclamation declaring the week of September 17, 2012, through September 23, 2012, as Constitution Week in the Town of Lockport. Councilman Hartman moved and Councilman Barker seconded the motion to adopt the proclamation. The motion carried unanimously.

O. Resolutions

1. Richard P. Champagne Memorial Resolution

Councilman Rogers moved to table the resolution until members of the family can be present.

Councilman Triche seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2. LGAP Application

Councilman Rogers moved and Councilman Triche seconded a motion authorizing the filing of an application for LGAP-Local Government Assistance Program grant. The motion carried unanimously.

3. DEQ State Revolving Fund loan pre-application

Councilman Rogers moved and Councilman Hartman seconded a motion authorizing the submission of a pre-application for a DEQ State Revolving Fund loan.

Councilman Rogers made a motion to table agenda items P (Public Hearing to declare the property at 302 Barataria as surplus) and Q (Ordinance declaring the property at 302 Barataria as surplus. Councilman Triche seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

R. Introduce Ordinance and call for a public hearing on the following:

1. General Alimony Tax

This is done by resolution; therefore, a public hearing will not be called.

2. Increase of cost for Mayor's Court pursuant to Act 238 of the 2012 Louisiana Legislature

Mr. Champagne explained that Representative Gisclair sponsored a bill increasing court costs by \$40. Councilman Rogers made motion to introduce an ordinance and call for a public hearing increasing the cost of Mayor's Court pursuant to Act 238 of the 2012 Louisiana Legislature. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hartman and it carried unanimously.

3. Subdivision of property at 1202 Elizabeth Street (or) 912 Second Street

Councilman Rogers made a motion to introduce an ordinance and call for a public hearing for the subdivision of said property and advertisement of public hearing is done as required by subdivision regulations. Councilman Barker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Councilman Rogers noted that the subdivision meets all square footage requirements as required by Town Ordinance.

4. Subdivision of property at 814 Lafourche Street

Councilman Rogers stated that because one of the lots will be less than the required 3500 square feet (3080 square feet), the property owner would have to apply for a variance in addition to the subdivision. Councilman Rogers asked Mr. Guidroz how close the house was to the proposed sidelines. Mr. Guidroz replied that he was not sure. Councilman Rogers instructed Mr. Guidroz that the sidelines must be 5' from the house to the edge of the property on both sides, 10' from the house to the front of the property, and 10' from the house to the back of the property, and provide off-street parking. Mr. Champagne reminded the Council that at the last meeting, Mr. Guidroz told the Council the property use to be two lots, then one, and now he wants to make the property two lots again. Mr. Theriot said variances would be needed if the sidelines of the property are less than 5'. Councilman Rogers recommended giving Mr. Guidroz a list of everything he needs to properly subdivide the property and address the variances and call for a public hearing in the meantime, so as not to delay the process. Councilman Rogers made a motion to introduce an ordinance and call for a public hearing for the subdivision of said property and advertisement of public hearing is done as required by subdivision regulations. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

S. Structures along Catherine/Comeaux Drainage Servitude

Mr. Theriot suggested sending letters to property owners giving notice that they have structures on the Town's servitude. Councilman Rogers said he feels that property owners should be able to keep fences or any other nonpermanent structure on the servitude, as long as they remove them if and when needed. If fences are removed, property owners should be able to put the fences back once work is complete. Councilman Rogers asked what the actual servitude was. Mr. Theriot responded that there is 20' servitude on the Comeaux Drive side and 7.5' servitude on the Catherine Street side. Resident Wayne Naquin said his shed is all the way on the servitude, so he already started taking it down. Mr. Champagne advised that he did not need to take it down at this time. Mr. Naquin said he is on disability; therefore, he wants to start now and do a little at a time, because he cannot afford to tear it all down at once. Mr. Champagne said the Council just wants to let everyone know that they have a structure on the servitude, but no action is being taken at this time. Mr. Naquin asked if he needed a permit. Mr. Champagne said he could not answer the question- it would have to be investigated.

T. Dilapidated Buildings

Mr. Theriot made reference to a report that was distributed to the Councilmen. The Council reviewed the report on dilapidated buildings.

U. Reports

1. Council
 - A. Councilman Hartman- No report.
 - B. Councilman Barker- Councilman Barker thanked the citizens of Lockport for allowing him to serve another four years.
 - C. Councilman Triche- Councilman Triche would like the town crew fill potholes throughout town.
 - D. Councilman Rogers- Councilman Rogers thanked the citizens of Lockport for allowing him to serve another four years. He looks forward to the opportunity to serve another four years to tackle projects, such as drainage. Councilman Rogers said he would like to get with Administration and meet with GSE to discuss the drainage problems on Vacherie Street.
2. Town Attorney- No report.
3. Mayor- Mr. Champagne announced the Town of Lockport received Honorable Mention for the 2011 Community Achievement Award from Louisiana Municipal Association for the sewer rehab work completed on Comeaux Drive. Mr. Champagne also said a letter was received by the Sheriff's Department requesting permission to add cameras to the PACT center to increase security. Mr. Theriot added that their lease requires permission to do any remodeling project. Councilman Rogers made a motion to allow the Sheriff to install additional cameras and microphones in the part of the Town Hall they are leasing. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
4. Staff- No report.

V. Citizens Comments

- Mr. Tildeon Tastet, 310 Comeaux Drive, asked if the Town had a machine to clean out the drains. Mr. Champagne affirmed. Mr. Tasted asked if the crew can run the machine down Comeaux Drive.
- Mr. Raph Sapia congratulated Councilman Rogers, Triche, and Barker for going unopposed in the upcoming election. Mr. Sapia asked for the Council's support in the upcoming election. He added that he is very concerned about the Town and would like to help the Town move forward.
- Mr. Floyd Cretini asked the time frame for drainage improvements on the south side of School Street. Councilman Rogers said he visited the street during a rain event and took pictures. Councilman Rogers said that by sweeping the ditch and replacing or lowering at least three culverts, drainage would significantly improve. Councilman Rogers answered that it depends on the funding. Mr. Champagne asked Councilman Rogers to spearhead the project for School Street Drainage. Councilman Rogers agreed to spearhead the project.

G. Appoint Interim Mayor

Councilman Paul Champagne announced his resignation as Councilman, effective August 21, 2012. Councilman Champagne read aloud his resignation letter addressed to Secretary of State Tom Schedler.

Mr. Theriot asked the Council to appoint a Mayor Pro Tem. Councilman Hartman moved to appoint Councilman Craig Rogers as Mayor Pro Tem. There was a unanimous second to the motion by the Council.

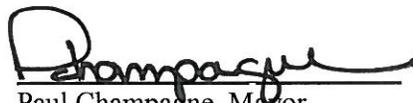
Councilman Rogers asked for a nomination to appoint an Interim Mayor. Councilman Triche moved to appoint Paul Champagne as the Interim Mayor. There was a unanimous second to the motion by the Council.

Mayor Paul Champagne thanked the Council for the confidence that they showed in him and looks forward to serving as Mayor.

R. Adjourn

The next scheduled regular Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2012. There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion by Councilman Triche to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Councilman Rogers and carried unanimously at 8:51PM.

Town of Lockport



Paul Champagne, Mayor



Danielle Williams, Town Clerk



Town of Lockport

Proclamation

WHEREAS, our Founding Fathers, in order to secure the blessings of liberty for themselves and their posterity, did ordain and establish a Constitution for the United States of America: and

WHEREAS, it is of the greatest importance that all citizens fully understand the provisions and principles contained in the Constitution in order to support, preserve, and defend it against all encroachment: and

WHEREAS, the two hundred-twenty fifth anniversary of the signing of the Constitution provides an historic opportunity for all Americans to realize the achievements of the Framers of the Constitution and the rights, privileges, and responsibilities it affords: and

WHEREAS, the independence guaranteed to American citizens, whether by birth or naturalization, should be celebrated by appropriate ceremonies and activities by proclamation of the President of the United States of America in accordance with Public Law 915;

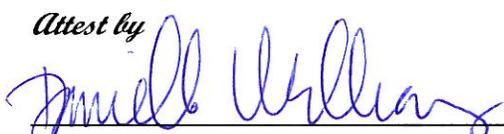
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Lockport, in conjunction with the Bayou Lafourche Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, does hereby proclaim the week of September 17 through 23, 2012 as

CONSTITUTION WEEK

in the Town of Lockport and does urge all students and citizens of the community to study the Constitution, and reflect on the privilege of being an American with all the rights and responsibilities which that privilege involves.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Official Seal of the Town of Lockport, Louisiana, at the Town Hall, in the Town of Lockport, on this the 16th day of August, A.D. 2012.


Paul Champagne, Mayor Pro Tem

Attest by

Danielle Williams, Town Clerk

On motion by Councilman Rogers, seconded by Councilman Hartman, the following resolution was introduced and adopted;

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-015

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE TOWN OF LOCKPORT TO SUBMIT A PRE-APPLICATION TO THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Town of Lockport is in need of locating sewer infiltration in the Town's sewer lines and repairing infiltration sites along with the repair of sewer lines.

WHEREAS, loans and/or/grants for this project may be available through the State Revolving Fund loan program operated by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of the Town of Lockport, Louisiana that:

Section 1. The Mayor is hereby authorized to submit a pre-application to the Department of Environmental Quality on behalf of the Town of Lockport for the purpose of placing this project on the Project Priority List for funding through the State Revolving Fund loan program; and,

Section 2. The Mayor is further authorized to furnish such additional information as may reasonably be requested in connection with the pre-application; and,

Section 3. The Mayor is hereby designated as the Official Project Representative for the Town of Lockport for any project that may result from the submission of the pre-application.

A MOTION TO ADOPT the above resolution was made by Councilman Rogers, seconded by Councilman Hartman, and resulted in the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Barker, Hartman, Rogers, and Triche

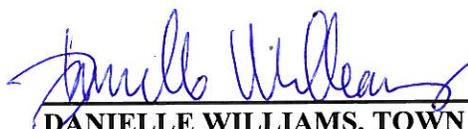
NAYS:

ABSENT:

And the resolution was declared adopted this 21st day of August, 2012.


Paul Champagne, MAYOR PRO TEM
TOWN OF LOCKPORT

I, Danielle Williams, Town Clerk for the Town of Lockport, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2012-015 adopted by the Assembled Council in Regular Session on August 21, 2012, at which meeting a quorum was present.


DANIELLE WILLIAMS, TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF LOCKPORT

RESOLUTION

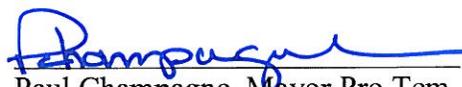
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR A LGAP – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Lockport wishes to submit an application to be considered in 2012-2013 for a Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) grant which will be used for a project consistent with the LGAP eligibility requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and / or Mayor Pro Tem of the Town of Lockport is authorized to make and sign an application, including all understandings and assurances contained therein, with the LGAP – Local Government Assistance Program with respect to the above-referenced project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and / or Mayor Pro Tem of the Town of Lockport is authorized and directed to serve as the official representative of the Town of Lockport, to act in connection with the application and to sign any LGAP – Local Government Assistance Program grant documents to bind the Town of Lockport.

The foregoing resolution was read, considered, and is adopted this 21st day of August, 2012.


Paul Champagne, Mayor Pro Tem
TOWN OF LOCKPORT

CERTIFICATE

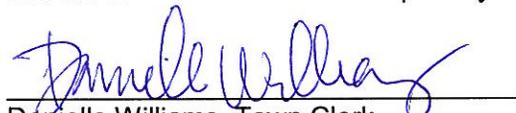
I, Gerard Leonard, Clerk for the Town of Lockport, hereby certify that the above constitutes a true and accurate copy of a resolution, which UPON MOTION of Councilman Rogers and seconded by Councilman Triche was adopted by the following Yea and Nay vote:

YEA: Councilmen Barker, Hartman, Rogers, and Triche

NAY:

ABSENT:

and the same was declared adopted by the Mayor on this 21st day of August, 2012.


Danielle Williams, Town Clerk
Town of Lockport