

Town of Lockport
Lockport, Louisiana

Minutes of Regular Meeting February 19, 2013

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 19, 2013, at 7:00PM, at the Lockport Town Hall Complex.

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

Mayor Paul Champagne called the meeting to order. The opening prayer was offered by Town Clerk Danielle Williams, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Champagne.

D. Roll Call

The roll was called with the following present: Mayor Paul Champagne, Councilmembers Donovan Barker, Sharon Guidry, Rodney Hartman, and Weldon Triche. Councilman Rogers was not in attendance. Also in attendance were Town Attorney Chris Huddleston, Chief of Police Warren Vedros, and Scott Guidry.

E. Approval of Minutes

1. January 9, 2013, Special Meeting

Mayor Champagne asked if there were any corrections or comments concerning the minutes of the January 9, 2013, meeting that were distributed to the Councilmen. Councilwoman Guidry made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2. January 15, 2013, Regular Meeting

Mayor Champagne asked if there were any corrections or comments concerning the minutes of the January 15, 2013, meeting that were distributed to the Councilmen. Councilman Triche 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 January 31, 2013

Mayor Champagne asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the financial statements for the month ending January 31, 2013, that were distributed to the Councilmen. Ms. Williams answered a question that arose last month about why one sales tax showed a YTD increase while the other two sales taxes showed a YTD decrease. Councilman Hartman moved and Councilman Barker seconded a motion to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Police Report

Mayor Champagne called on Police Chief Warren Vedros to report on his department's activities. Chief Vedros distributed copies of the monthly activity report. Chief Vedros asked the Council to declare the 2007 Expedition surplus and to advertise for bids. Councilman Hartman made a motion to declare the 2007 Ford Expedition as surplus property and to advertise for bids. Councilman Triche seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Councilman Hartman thanked the Chief for his report. Councilman Barker moved and Councilman Triche seconded a motion to accept the Police Report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

H. GSE Report

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

1. Wind Hardening of Town Hall Complex:

The town is waiting on GOHSEP and FEMA to close out and give final approval. GSE received an email from Reuben Meador with GOSHEP stating he will try to get an answer on this.

2. Sewer Infiltration Analysis:

An application has been submitted to DEQ requesting \$4 million in bonds (\$1 million would be forgiven) to pay for this endeavor. GSE applied for \$140,000 from Capital Outlay. DEQ's engineering and financial review should be complete within two weeks. Foley & Judell anticipate having funds available at the end of February. They are also in the process of getting all approvals in place in case interim financing is necessary. DEQ has approved the professional service contracts for CES to complete the sewer system inspection. CES was issued a notice to complete the analysis of the other three quadrants in town. CES has completed approximately 65% of the study. The contractor has removed 4-5 tons of debris from the sewer lines. Mayor Champagne recommended putting the sewer line repairs for the Southeast Quadrant of Town (the first quadrant completed) out for bid. Councilman Triche so moved. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Guidry and carried unanimously.

I. Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building- Freddie Delaune, Rene Leonard

Mr. Leonard announced that the Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building would like to host their second annual "Bateau du Bois" on May 11, 2013. The event is scheduled to last from 10am to 6pm. They would like permission to sell alcohol at the event. Mr. Leonard requested a Letter of No Objection from the town granting permission to host the event on the town's property and authorizing the Center for Traditional Boat Building to sell alcohol. Councilman Triche moved to submit a Letter of No Objection to serve alcohol and to give permission to the Center for Traditional Louisiana Boat Building to host the event on town property. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

J. Inspire Racing- Tony Hubbel

1. Holy Savior "Beignet Run"

Mr. Hubbel asked permission to have a 5k race/fundraiser for Holy Savior School on May 4, 2013. Mayor Champagne asked Chief Vedros if he had any concerns with the route. Chief Vedros said he would need to bring in officers to block off the route.

2. Central Lafourche Project Graduation

Mr. Hubbel asked permission to have a 5k race/fundraiser for Central Lafourche Project Graduation on April 28, 2013.

Councilman Triche moved and Councilman Barker seconded a motion to allow Inspire Racing to host the two races in town on the requested dates. The motion carried unanimously.

K. Adopt Millage Rate for 2013 General Alimony Tax

Councilman Hartman moved and Councilman Barker seconded the motion to adopt the Millage Rate of 8.26 mills for the 2013 General Alimony Tax. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Councilmembers Barker, Guidry, Hartman, and Triche.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman Rogers

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 19th day of February, 2013.

L. Councilman Barker moved and Councilwoman Guidry seconded the motion to suspend the regular meeting and to open a public hearing on the following topics. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Lease Agreement between the Town of Lockport and Christopher J. Huddleston, LLC

Mayor Champagne explained that the terms of the lease are the same as the lease with former Town Attorney Mitch Theriot. Mr. Huddleston will begin leasing Mr. Theriot's former offices on March 1, 2013. Councilman Barker asked the rental rate. Mayor Champagne answered that the monthly rate is \$210. Mayor Champagne asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience and there were none.

2. Set Chief of Police's Salary

Mayor Champagne explained that the Chief's current annual salary is \$42,000. Mayor Champagne proposed to raise the Chief's annual salary by 8%, to \$45,360. Mayor Champagne said he personally feels that Chief Vedros is not only the Chief, but a true ambassador for the Town of Lockport. Councilman Barker proposed a 12% salary increase. Mayor Champagne said he feels that an 8% increase is the most doable for the Town right now. Councilman Hartman echoed Mayor Champagne's sentiments about Chief Vedros and agreed to an 8% annual salary increase. Mayor Champagne asked for comments from the public. Mr. Ralph Sapia agreed that pay increase was in order and asked the Council to support the 8% increase. Ms. JoAnn Savoie said that after hearing Mayor Champagne, she would like him to disregard what she told him earlier. Mayor Champagne asked if there were any other questions or comments from the audience and there were none. Mayor Champagne asked the record to reflect that the pay increase was not initiated by Chief Vedros.

Councilman Hartman made a motion to end the public hearing and go back into regular session. Councilman Triche seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

M. Ordinance

1. Lease Agreement between the Town of Lockport and Christopher J. Huddleston, LLC

Councilman Triche made a motion to adopt the above stated Ordinance. Councilman Triche seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2. Set Chief of Police's Salary

Councilman Triche made a motion to increase the Chief of Police's salary to \$45,360 per year. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

N. Open topics

1. Smoke testing report

No report.

2. Clear trees from main drainage ditch from Crescent Ave to First Street

Mayor Champagne called on Kenney Matherne, who explained the machine should be in the area soon. Mayor Champagne asked Kenney to contact the town clerk when it will be in town.

3. Street Repairs

No report.

4. Restrooms at Bayou-Side Park

The restrooms should ship next week. Mayor Champagne expressed his sincere gratitude to the Lafourche Parish Government for their financial assistance with this project.

5. Municode

The Municode Committee was cancelled last month and has not been rescheduled.

6. Derelict/dilapidated structures

An updated report was included in the Councilman's packets. No action was taken.

7. School Street Drainage-GSE prepared scope of work

No report.

8. Culvert Ordinance

No report.

O. Reports

1. Council
 - a. Councilwoman Guidry said she is not offended by being called Councilman.
 - b. Councilman Hartman said he read that the floodgates were delivered for installation on the Houma Navigational Canal and he was very happy to read the news, because he thinks it will help protect Lockport.
 - c. Councilman Triche asked the Mayor and Council to consider getting surveillance cameras for the park. Chief Vedros responded that the Town has applied for a grant through GOHSEP for the cameras. Councilman Triche said that the bulkhead on the corner for South Coast Gas is deteriorating from the corner to past the Bayou Playhouse. Mayor Champagne asked Councilman Triche to take pictures and bring them to the town clerk. Councilman Triche added that the old pump house has an 8' drop, and the door is in disrepair and the windows are busted. The building needs to be secured.
 - d. Chief Vedros asked for approval for the Lockport Food Festival on April 19, 20, and 21, 2013. Councilman Triche made a motion approving the Lockport Food Festival on April 19, 20, and 21, 2013. Councilwoman Guidry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
2. Mayor Champagne
 - a. Paddle the Bayou will be in Lockport on April 7, 2013. Historically, the Town has paid for the food, which is prepared by Mr. Richard Hebert. The same will be done this year.
 - b. Bayou Lafourche Clean-up will take place on March 2, 2013.
 - c. The Town Maintenance Supervisor will retire on March 31, 2013. The job opening will be advertised in the Daily Comet and the Lafourche Gazette for three days, with resumes accepted until March 8, 2013.
 - d. The Old Police Department repairs are nearing completion.
 - e. On February 6, 2013, a Public Hearing was held to invite anyone interested in competing with the .95% interest rate offered by LDEQ for the sewer bonds. No offers were submitted.
 - f. LADOTD contacted Mayor Champagne regarding a letter submitted requesting LADOTD to assist in straightening out the curve on LA 308 near McLeod Road. LADOTD will be visiting Lockport to do a study to determine if the speed limit along Crescent Avenue should be reduced to 35 mph throughout town.

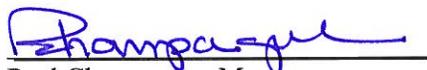
Q. Citizens Comments

- Mr. Floyd Cretini asked Mayor Champagne to tell LADOTD about the fatal accident on LA 1 just outside of town to maybe persuade them to lower the speed limit.
- Mr. Ralph Sapia said he witnessed large garbage trucks going down Myrtle Delaune and Veterans Street. He recalls an agreement that smaller trucks are supposed to be used to prevent destruction to the streets. Mr. Sapia added that he is excited about what he sees this Council doing.
- Mr. Archie Chiasson, Parish Administrator, thanked Mayor Champagne for introducing him. Mr. Chiasson said he will be open to communication with Town officials and available to help in any way he can.

T. Adjourn

The next regularly scheduled Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 19, 2013. There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion by Councilman Triche to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Councilman Barker and carried unanimously at 8:20PM.

Town of Lockport


Paul Champagne, Mayor


Danielle Williams, Town Clerk

TOWN OF LOCKPORT
RESOLUTION 2013-002

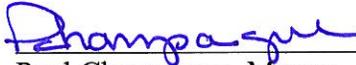
BE IT RESOLVED, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2013 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the Town of Lockport.

	<u>MILLAGE</u>
General Alimony Tax	8.26 mills

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper administrative officials of the Parish of Lafourche, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2013, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

The foregoing resolution was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS:	Councilmembers Barker, Guidry, Hartman, and Triche
NAYS:	None
ABSTAINED:	None
ABSENT:	Councilman Rogers

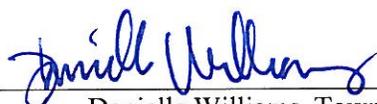


Paul Champagne, Mayor
Town of Lockport

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the resolution adopted at the board meeting held on February 19, 2013, at which meeting a quorum was present and voting.

Town of Lockport, Louisiana, this 20th day of February, 2013.



Danielle Williams, Town Clerk

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF LAFOURCHE

BEFORE ME, the undersigned notary public, duly commissioned and qualified within and for the aforesaid parish and state, personally came and appeared:

Danielle Williams

(Authorized person to represent the taxing district)

who, after first being duly sworn, did depose and say that:

He/she is the duly authorized Town Clerk of the Town of Lockport.
(Title or position) (Taxing district)

(Mark the appropriate box below to show how you complied with the Open Meetings Law.)

A public meeting was held in accordance with the **Open Meetings Law** at R.S. 42:11, et seq., including allowing a public comment period before taking a vote, R.S. 42:14(D), to adopt the millage rates for the 2013 tax year. That public written notice of the **agenda**, date, time, and place of the meeting (X) **was posted** on the building where the meetings of this taxing authority are usually held no less than 24 hours before the meeting and/or () **was published** in the official journal no less than 24 hours before the meeting.

A quorum or simple majority of the total membership of the taxing authority was physically present and voting at the public meeting, which was held on the 19th day of February, 2013, at 7:00 pm. at the Lockport Town Hall Complex, 710 Church Street, Lockport, LA 70374. The meeting was conducted in accord with the prior noticed agenda. Matters not included on the agenda were not discussed without the unanimous approval of the members present after complying with all provisions of R.S. 42:19(A)(1)(b)(ii).

Roll Forward Occurred: Yes () No ()

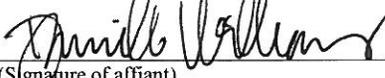
If Roll Forward Occurred:

The additional publishing requirements of Article 7, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution and R.S. 47:1705(B) regarding increases in the millage rates have been complied with. These requirements include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Public notice of the date, time, place, and subject matter of the public hearing was published on two separate days no less than thirty days before the public hearing in the official journal of the taxing authority;
2. And, if applicable, in another newspaper with a larger circulation within the taxing authority than the official journal;
3. The publications contained an estimate of the amount of tax revenues to be collected in the next tax year from the increased millage as compared to the amount of tax revenue for the current year;
4. The publications also contained the amount of increase in taxes attributable to the millage increase;
5. On the first day of publication, the notice was posted on the Internet website, if the taxing authority maintains an Internet website;
6. The posting remained active on the Internet until the taxing authority took action to approve or disapprove or abandon action on the proposed millage increase;
7. For purposes of the internet publication only, the notice contained a recitation of the current budget of the taxing authority.

8. Publications were published by **July 15**;
9. The **taxing authority submitted** a notice to the official journal in conformity with the date required and the **official journal failed** to publish the notice by July fifteenth, said notices were then properly published by July 25th. **Proof of submission date is attached.**
10. Publications were published in a **prominent place** in the newspaper in a section **other than** the classified advertisements or the public notice section.
11. The assessor was provided notice of the date, time and place of the pending hearing;
12. A press release was issued to newspapers with substantial distribution within the jurisdiction of the taxing district; and
13. To area broadcast media;
14. If the advertised public hearing was cancelled or postponed or was considered at the public hearing without action or vote, then, all of the notice requirements of R. S. 47:1705(B) for future public hearings to consider such proposal to increase millage rates was advertised and publicized, except the newspaper advertisement by July 15;
15. Two separate ordinances or resolutions were adopted; and
16. Two-thirds of the total membership of the taxing authority voted in favor of the second ordinance or resolution to increase the millage.

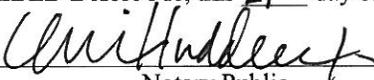
Copies of all required notices and agenda are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.



 (Signature of affiant)
 Danielle Williams

 (Printed name)

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED Before Me, this 27TH day of February, 2013, at Lockport, Louisiana.



 Notary Public
 Printed or Typed Name (as commissioned): _____
 Notary ID or Bar Roll No.: NID # 91082

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF LAFOURCHE

COMMERCIAL LEASE

BE IT KNOWN, that

TOWN OF LOCKPORT, a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana, represented herein by its Mayor, Paul Champagne, herein referred to as Lessor;

AND

CHRISTOPHER J. HUDDLESTON, 307 Pelican Drive, Raceland, Louisiana, 70394, herein referred to as Lessee;

Who declared that they have agreed to the following:

Lessor leases and lets unto lessee the office space in the Lockport Town Hall Complex known as Office Suite C and Suite D for a period commencing on the 1st day March, 2013, and ending on the 30th day of June, 2014, in consideration for the rental and upon the terms and conditions hereinafter stipulated, as follows, to-wit:

1. Lessee agrees to pay to Lessor a monthly rental of Two Hundred Ten (\$210.00) Dollars. Said rental is due on or before the 5th of each month.
2. Lessee agrees to pay a 10% late fee if the monthly rental is not paid by the 15th of the month.
3. Lessor has the right to cancel the lease without penalty if rental or any portion thereof is in excess of fifteen days late. Should lessor exercise his right to cancel, lessor shall notify lessee in writing that lessor is exercising his right to cancel. Upon receipt of such notification, Lessee has 15 days from date of notification to bring the rental current and continue leasing the property or vacate the premises.
4. Lessee shall not sublease said premises or assign this lease, or any part thereof, without Lessor's written consent.
5. Lessor agrees to maintain hazard insurance on the office building. Lessee is responsible to purchase insurance to cover the loss of lessee's personal property located on the leased property.
6. Lessee shall not make any major renovations to the leased premises without the lessors written permission.
7. Lessor shall have the right to periodically inspect the premises during normal working hours.
8. Any alterations to the lease shall be in writing and signed by both parties.
9. Any and all written communication and payments shall be sent to the following:

Lessor: Town of Lockport
 710 Church Street
 Lockport, LA 70374

Lessee Christopher J. Huddleston
 307 Pelican Drive
 Raceland, LA 70394

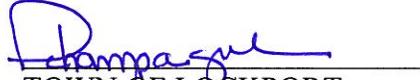
10. Any issue not covered by the lease shall be governed by Louisiana law.

17. This lease shall supercede any and all prior leases.

Thus done, passed and signed on the ___ day of ___, 2013, in the presence of the competent witnesses hereinbelow named.

WITNESSES





TOWN OF LOCKPORT
PAUL CHAMPAGNE





CHRISTOPHER J. HUDDLESTON

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-004

An ordinance to amend the Lockport
Code of Ordinances so as to amend
Section 18-1

BE IT ORDAINED by the Lockport Town Council in regular session assembled that the Lockport Town Code of Ordinances, Section 18-1 is hereby amended and re-enacted so as to repeal and re-enact the title and Section 18-1 (C) to read as follows:

SECTION 18-1 DUTIES AND SALARY OF CHIEF OF POLICE

C. Effective July 1, 2011, the pay scale for the Chief of Police in the Town of Lockport shall be as follows:

BASE PAY:	\$15,000
POST CERTIFICATION	\$10,000
TOWN COUNCIL	
ADJUSTMENT	\$20,360
 TOTAL ANNUAL SALARY	 \$45,360

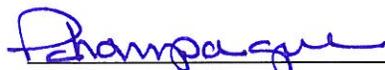
Said ordinance was put a vote on the 19st day of February, 2013, with the result of said vote as follows:

YEAS Councilmembers Barker, Guidry, Hartman, and Triche.

NAYS None.

ABSENT Councilman Rogers

The ordinance was declared adopted this 19th day of February, 2013.



Paul Champagne, Mayor

ATTEST:



Danielle Williams, Town Clerk