

Town of Lockport  
Lockport, Louisiana

Minutes of Regular Meeting March 19, 2013

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, March 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, Craig Rogers, and Weldon Triche. Also in attendance were Town Attorney Chris Huddleston, Chief of Police Warren Vedros, Kenney Matherne, and Floyd Cretini, Jr.

**E. Approval of Minutes- February 19, 2013**

Mayor Champagne asked if there were any corrections or comments concerning the minutes of the February 19, 2013, meeting that were distributed to the Councilmen. Councilman Hartman asked to amend the minutes to clarify that the Chief's raise was not 8% annually. Councilman Hartman asked to remove the word "annual" from the sentence "Councilman Hartman echoed Mayor Champagne's sentiments about Chief Vedros and agreed to an 8% annual salary increase," so it would read "Councilman Hartman echoed Mayor Champagne's sentiments about Chief Vedros and agreed to an 8% salary increase." Councilman Hartman made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Councilman Barker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**F. Approval of Financial Statements for the month ending February 28, 2013**

Mayor Champagne asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the financial statements for the month ending February 28, 2013, that were distributed to the Councilmen. Councilman Rogers moved and Councilman Triche 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 presented the bids received for the surplus 2007 Ford Expedition. Councilman Rogers made a motion to accept Southern Belt Auto's bid of \$6,226.76. Councilman Triche seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Councilman Rogers moved and Councilman Hartman 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 for approval of a change order. FEMA requested a Benefit Cost Analysis from GOSHEP, which was submitted to FEMA on March 7, 2013.

**2. Sewer Infiltration Analysis:**

Bond closing was held on March 14, 2013, in Baton Rouge.

CES is approximately 95% complete with inspecting the sewer lines and 5% complete with inspecting manholes. Providence/GSE's engineering agreement was submitted to DEQ on March 12, 2013, from approval to begin design for the Southeast Quadrant rehabilitation. Once CES has submitted their report, an amendment will be presented to add the remaining three (3) quadrants. GSE is preparing plans and specifications for the Southeast Quadrant.

Mayor Champagne asked the Council to deviate from the agenda to allow Mr. Dustin Rabalais, Leonard Chauvin Engineering, to speak. Councilman Triche so moved. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rogers. Mayor Champagne asked if there were any objections from the audience and there were none. The motion carried.

Mayor Champagne called on Dustin Rabalais, Leonard Chauvin Engineering, to address the Council. Mr. Rabalais reported on the Smithport Levee Improvements. Dirt work should be completed by the end of the week. Change of culverts and water control structures will begin next week or the week following. The contractor will repair Veterans Street once the trucks are finished bringing in dirt. Councilman Triche asked the elevation of the levee. Mr. Rabalais answered that pre-project, some areas were 3.5'. Once completed, the levee will be at plus 5' or better.

### **I. Lafourche Council on Aging**

Mayor Champagne called on Ms. Charlene Rodriguez. Mrs. Rodriguez explained that Ms. Linda Loupe's, Lockport Representative for Lafourche Council on Aging, term is expiring on April 18, 2013, and a new appointee is needed. Ms. Rodriguez asked the Council to recommend someone to take Ms. Loupe's place. Councilman Rogers recommended advertising the vacancy on the Town's website and in the newspaper. Mayor Champagne and the Council applauded Ms. Loupe for her service.

### **J. Progressive Waste Solutions**

Mayor Champagne called on Mr. Roddie Matherne to address the Council. Mayor Champagne explained that he has received several complaints of the larger garbage trucks running and asked that the smaller trucks be used to prevent damage to the Town's streets. Mr. Matherne explained that sometimes the smaller trucks are unavailable, but he will notify the Town before a larger truck is used. Mr. Matherne handed out his business card and asked Administration to call his cell phone if a large truck is seen going through Town and the Town has not been notified beforehand. Councilman Rogers asked Mr. Matherne for the schedule for the boom truck. Mr. Matherne said he would email the schedule to Ms. Williams.

### **K. Proclamation for Israelite Baptist Church**

Mayor Champagne presented a Proclamation celebrating Israelite Baptist Church's 93<sup>rd</sup> anniversary.

### **L. Resolution for Engineering Agreement with GSE for Gravity Sewer System Rehab**

Councilman Rogers made a motion to accept the above stated resolution. Councilman Triche seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **M. Call for a Public Hearing to obtain views on the housing and community development needs of the Town and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2014-15 Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program**

Councilman Rogers made a motion to call for a Public Hearing to obtain views on the housing and community development needs of the Town and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2014-15 Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program. Councilwoman Guidry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **N. Open topics**

#### **1. Smoke testing report**

Councilman Rogers asked that the Council be notified of the locations of the three remaining leaks.

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

Mayor Champagne said he received a call from Dwayne Bourgeois, North Lafourche Levee District, and was told it would cost \$86,000 to have the trees removed from the drainage ditch.

#### **3. Street Repairs**

Councilman Rogers suggested looking at the budget and if there are additional funds in Capital Outlay, money should be budgeted towards streets next fiscal year.

#### **4. Restrooms at Bayou-Side Park**

The restrooms are now in place. Dirt needs to be hauled in and a sidewalk needs to be poured.

#### **5. Municode**

No report.

#### **6. Derelict/dilapidated structures**

No report.

#### **7. School Street Drainage-GSE prepared scope of work**

No report.

#### **8. Culvert Ordinance**

No report.

**O. Reports**

1. Council
  - a. Councilman Rogers mentioned that DOTD has been doing work along Highway 1 and asked Administration to find out if they will be coming through town. Councilman Rogers asked the Council to consider reducing the Town's partnership in the Lockport Food Festival's organization to an equal value of the Holy Savior PTC, which is one half of the distribution up to \$3000.
  - b. Councilman Triche asked if the Town has heard from DOTD about placing a camera on the bridge. Mayor Champagne answered that he has received no word from DOTD about the camera or about reducing the speed limit along Crescent Avenue.
  - c. Councilman Hartman said that at this time next year, Fire District #2 will be going through its rating and Chief Autin may wish to address the Council at a future meeting to ask the Town for assistance.
  - d. Councilwoman Guidry commended the Bayou Lafourche Folklife Museum on the success of this year's Main Street Market. She also commended the Chief of Police and his department for their work at Main Street Market. Councilwoman Guidry wished everyone a Happy Easter.
2. Mayor Champagne –no report.

**Q. Citizens Comments-**

- None

**T. Adjourn**

The next regularly scheduled Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2013. 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 8:10PM.

Town of Lockport



Paul Champagne, Mayor

  
Danielle Williams, Town Clerk



## Town of Lockport

### Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the area that was to become Valentine Plantation was purchased by Captain Celestin Dalferre in 1867; and

**WHEREAS**, the metal cornerstone of the original Israelite Baptist Church was placed in 1920; and

**WHEREAS**, today, the twenty-three loyal members of the Israelite Baptist Church were either born on Valentine Plantation or are descendants of people who lived on Valentine Plantation; and

**WHEREAS**, Israelite Baptist Church has been serving the communities of Valentine and Lockport for 93 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Israelite Baptist Church, the Mayor, the Town Council, and the citizens of the Town of Lockport continue to believe that we are "endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights", one of which is to worship God freely in a faith community that is warm and inspiring;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, PAUL CHAMPAGNE, MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF LOCKPORT**, on behalf of the Town Council and the citizens of Lockport, do hereby recognize the 93rd anniversary of Israelite Baptist Church and express our appreciation to the Reverend Kenneth Jackson and the members of Israelite Baptist Church for their service and commitment to our community and those in need, and do hereby proclaim March 17, 2013, to be Israelite Baptist Church's 93rd Anniversary Day in Lockport to honor its 93 years of inspiration.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Official Seal of the Town of Lockport, on this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013.

Paul Champagne, Mayor

Danielle Williams, Town Clerk

It was moved by Councilman Rogers and seconded by Councilman Triche that the following Resolution be adopted:

**RESOLUTION**

A Resolution retaining the services of Providence/GSE Associates, LLC and authorizing the Company Manager, Clay Breaud, to sign and enter into an engineering agreement for Gravity Sewer System Rehabilitation, Southeast Quadrant, Town of Lockport, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Lockport, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana, that an engineering agreement, substantially in accordance with the form attached, is hereby approved, and that the Mayor of the Town of Lockport is hereby authorized and empowered to sign said engineering agreement for and on behalf of the Town of Lockport.

WHEREUPON, the motion was put to a vote and the vote thereon was as follows:

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

NAYS: None

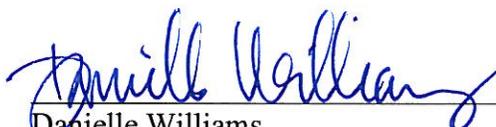
ABSENT AND NOT VOTING: None

and the Resolution was declared adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013.

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I, Danielle Williams, Clerk of the Town of Lockport, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Lockport, at a meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013, at which meeting a quorum was present and voted and that said Resolution is now in full force and effect.

WITNESS MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2013.

  
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Danielle Williams  
Town Clerk