

Town of Lockport
Lockport, Louisiana

Minutes of Regular Meeting May 19, 2015

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, 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 Mandy Himel. The Pledge of Allegiance was then led by Mayor Champagne.

D. Roll Call

The roll was called with the following present: Mayor Paul Champagne, Councilmembers Donovan Barker, Rodney Hartman, Craig Rogers, and Weldon Triche. Councilwoman Sharon Guidry was absent. Also in attendance were Town Clerk Mandy Himel, Town Attorney Chris Huddleston, Police Chief Warren Vedros.

E. Approval of Minutes- April 21, 2015

Mayor Champagne asked if there were any corrections or comments concerning the minutes of the April 21, 2015, meeting. Councilman Rogers made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Triche seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

F. Approval of Financial Statements for the month ending April 30, 2015

Mayor Champagne asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the financial statements for the month ending April 30, 2015. 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. Councilman Hartman asked Chief Vedros about the new computer system, Ticket Tracker. Chief Vedros stated that we will be completely on the system starting for the June court date. Chief Vedros stated that they trained him and the Town Clerk. They also talked to the Administrative Assistant since she will be the main one collecting the money. A motion was made by Councilman Rogers and seconded by Councilman Triche to accept the Police Report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

H. GSE Report

1. Sewer Rehabilitation (Northeastern Quadrants):

The cleaning of the lines, point repairs, lining the mains, and coating of the manholes have been completed. BLD plans to complete top hats on May 14, 2015. We are processing the Application for Payment No. 3. We are waiting on request for Substantial Completion.

2. CDBG Request for Sewer Rehabilitation (Western Quadrants):

This project was not funded through CDBG but will be funded by DEQ.

3. Capital Outlay Request for Sewer Rehabilitation (Western Quadrants):

A capital outlay request for the sewer rehabilitation project was submitted the last two years and the Town was granted \$110,000 (Priority 5). This money has to be elevated to Priority 1 before it becomes available for use. A capital outlay request was submitted prior to the November 1st deadline to move the previously awarded up the priority list and request additional funds. We should know next month if the project moved up.

4. Sewer Rehabilitation (Northwestern Quadrant):

The plans and specifications are approximately 65% complete. Additional videoing was required since they were not completed previously by CES. Suncoast couldn't video most of our requested lines due to water held in lines. Once we review the videoing, we will set up a meeting with Lockport to review the scope of repairs. The Northwest Quad Rehab is estimated to cost approximately \$685,000.

5. Street Repairs:

A capital outlay application was submitted for funds to pay for street repairs throughout the Town of Lockport. Capital Outlay appropriations will be determined in June 2015.

Councilman Rogers asked Mr. Breaud about the people doing the relining of the sewer on Comeaux Drive on the southeast side. Mr. Breaud stated they saw on the videos that there were three or four things that they needed to fix. He also went there to follow up on the concerns that we brought to his attention last meeting. Mr. Breaud stated that he was notified about manhole covers by the

Town crew. Mr. Breaud stated he will check with Melanie about all of these questions since she is one who is reviewing all the videos.

I. Christine Larousse- Dominican Laity- 5K Run and Walk

Ms. Christine Larousse asked the Council if they could host a 5K run and Rosary Walk on October 10, 2015. Mayor Champagne stated we will need a copy of the insurance certificate. Councilman Triche made a motion to allow the Dominican Laity to have a 5K run and Rosary Walk. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

J. Brenda Gaudet- Bayou Bell Ringers

Ms. Brenda Gaudet asked the Council if they could host a 5k Run/Walk on September 19, 2015. Mayor Champagne stated we will need a copy of the insurance certificate. Councilman Rogers made a motion to allow the Bayou Bell Ringers to have a 5K run. Councilman Triche seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

K. Public Wishing to Address the Council

a. Mr. Danny Griffin, 317 Walnut Street, stated that years ago they installed some check valves on the sewer line. He stated that when it rained heavily the other day his toilets almost overflowed. He stated he notified the Town crew, and they said he was responsible for that valve. There is a dome over the valve, and he didn't want to be responsible for anything. He wanted someone to go look at it. Mayor Champagne said we will send someone out there to look at it. He also stated that on Pine and Elizabeth that there is a manhole cover that has about 3" of water squirting up for the heavy rain.

b. Mr. Mark Rodrigue stated that Myrtle Delaune Drive needs to be grated. He wanted to let the Council know that has to be done. Mr. Rodrigue thanked Chief Vedros for the work that they have done.

c. Mr. John Champagne wanted to know the status about the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Parish concerning the fishing pier on the Bayou side park. Mr. Huddleston stated that we will have for the next meeting.

L. Proclamations

1. MPS Awareness Day

Mayor Champagne introduced a Proclamation declaring May 15, 2015, as MPS Awareness Day in the Town of Lockport. Mayor Champagne presented a copy of the proclamation to Meekal Stevens.

2. National Childcare Provider Appreciation Day

Mayor Champagne introduced a Proclamation declaring May 8, 2015, as National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day in the Town of Lockport.

Councilman Hartman made a motion to accept the above two proclamations. There was a unanimous second from the Council. The motion carried.

Councilman Rogers moved and Councilman Triche seconded the motion to suspend the regular meeting and to open a public hearing on the following topics. The motion carried unanimously.

M. To Hear Public Comments on the Lease Agreement between the Town of Lockport and the Following:

- **Halifax Theatre Company (Bayou Playhouse)**
- **Friends of Traditional Louisiana Boat Building**
- **Christopher J. Huddleston**

Mayor Champagne referenced the existing leases between the Town and the three entities that were included in the packets. Mayor Champagne recommended leaving lease rates as they currently are, but changing the lease to a two year lease instead of the one year lease. Councilman Barker supported the Mayor's recommendation. Councilman Rogers asked to hear from the tenants to see how it is going. Ms. Michelle Gautreaux spoke on behalf of the Bayou Playhouse and the Friends of Traditional Louisiana Boat Building since she serves on both of their Board of Directors. Mr. Perry Martin invited everyone to see a show at the Bayou Playhouse and described all of the benefits the Bayou Playhouse has brought to Lockport. He stated that 40,000 people over the years have visited Lockport. They have educated 300 kids with their program. Mr. Martin stated that if the rent were raised, it would be impossible for the Playhouse to carry on operations. Ms. Michele Gautreaux stated that they are making changes with the Boat museum. They have all kind of activities for kids, and they will be having field trips for the surrounding parishes. She stated museums cause interactions and feels that the future generations will benefit from this culture. Councilman Hartman stated that the insurance for the Boat museum is costing more than the amount of rent revenue that we are charging. Over the next two years, he recommends that we look into the cost of insurance. Councilman Triche stated that the deck on the Bayou Playhouse will need repairing. He feels that we should raise the rent to offset the cost of the repairs. He doesn't want to burden the taxpayers for these repairs. Councilman Hartman stated that we have been able to make the repairs this far for the Bayou Playhouse. He feels that we should not raise the rent at this time. Councilman Rogers stated we are on the positive side as a whole. Mayor Champagne recommended the two year lease for sense of security. Councilman Rogers stated that it might help

for funding purposes as well. Ms. Cindy Griffin, Managing Director of the Bayou Playhouse, explained that they are truly a nonprofit organization and without the support of others, through fundraising events, the Bayou Playhouse would not make it. Mr. Charles Gaubert stated we need to get more season ticket holders, then they can possibly pay more rent. Mayor Champagne asked if there were any other questions or comments from the audience and there were none. Mayor Champagne asked if there were any other questions or comments from the Council and there were none.

Councilman Rogers made a motion to end the Public Hearing and go back into regular session. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

N. Ordinances

1. Lease agreement between the Town of Lockport and Halifax Theatre Company

Councilwoman Hartman moved to accept the lease agreement between the Town of Lockport and Halifax Theatre Company for two years. Councilman Barker seconded the motion. Councilman Rogers was in favor. Councilman Triche opposed.

2. Lease agreement between the Town of Lockport Friends of Traditional Louisiana Boat Building

Councilman Rogers moved and Councilman Barker seconded a motion to accept the lease agreement between the Town of Lockport and Friends of Traditional Louisiana Boat Building for two years. Councilman Hartman was in favor. Councilman Triche opposed.

3. Lease agreement between the Town of Lockport and Christopher J. Huddleston

Councilman Rogers moved to accept the lease agreement between the Town of Lockport and Christopher J. Huddleston for two years. Councilman Triche seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

O. 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 2016-17 Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program.

Councilman Rogers made a motion to enter into Public Hearing for the above topic. Councilman Triche seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Ms. Martha Cazaubon gave a synopsis of the terms of the new LCDBG grant program. She stated there was a two year funding cycle. She distributed a handout describing eligible projects. She stated the public hearing is the first step of the process. The next step will be to select a project, then select administrator, and an engineer. She stated grants will be due November 2015. There will be a workshop on June 22, 2015, and we will have more details at that time. They don't have the exact figure of what amount of funds will be available. Councilman Rogers asked if there was a certain percentage of funds through the grant that goes to streets, sewer, and water. She stated it depends on the allocation of the points. She stated if it is a street project it will be based on the houses that face the street from 911 addresses, and possibly other houses if this is the only street people could pass through. Mayor Champagne stated that we will discuss and see what we are going to do. Mayor Champagne asked if there were any other questions or comments from the audience and there were none. Mayor Champagne asked if there were any other questions or comments from the Council and there were none.

Councilman Triche made a motion to end the Public Hearing and go back into regular session. Councilman Rogers seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

P. Call for a Public Hearing

1. To hear public comments on an ordinance to amend the fiscal year 2014-2015 Town of Lockport Budgets. (Available for inspection on May 22, 2015.)

A motion by Councilman Hartman, seconded by Councilman Barker, was made calling for a public hearing on the above topic. The motion carried unanimously.

2. To hear public comments on an ordinance to adopt the fiscal year 2015-2016 Town of Lockport Budgets. (Available for public inspection on May 22, 2015.)

A motion by Councilman Rogers, seconded by Councilman Triche, was made calling for a public hearing on the above topic. The motion carried unanimously.

Q. Discuss modular/manufactured homes being permitted in the R-1 zone

Councilman Rogers stated that modular/manufactured home being permitted in the R-1 zone wasn't part of our zoning definition. Since then, he thinks City of Thibodaux has amended their regulations to allow these homes to be permitted in residential neighborhoods. He stated these are prefabricated homes that meet the same codes as a residential home. He asked the Town Attorney to research to see what Thibodaux or other municipalities have done to change their zoning regulations. Councilman Triche asked about lots sizes, and elevation requirements. He asked if this would fit into the Town and if it would be doing justice to your

neighbor. Councilman Rogers stated these homes are built on a cement slab and for the height it has to be built as well.

Councilman Rogers made a motion to call for a Public Hearing for the discussion of a possible zoning definition change for modular/manufactured homes on July 21, 2015. Councilman Triche seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

R. Reports

1. Mayor

Mayor Champagne stated that the Levee project is almost complete. The Church Street Drainage project is finished. He also stated blight property issues are still being worked on, and we are adding another property to that list.

Mayor Champagne entertained a motion to call for a Public Hearing to discuss an ordinance enacting new codes through Municode.

Councilman Rogers made a motion to call for a Public Hearing to adopt an ordinance for enacting new codes through Municode for July 21, 2015. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Champagne recommended that we hire someone for Town hall. He would hope to bring them within the next two to three weeks to be here for training with the new computer system. Councilman Triche asked if this person would be a full time employee. Mayor Champagne stated that it will be a full time position. The Council agreed and supported the Mayor's recommendation.

2. Council

a. Councilman Triche asked who was responsible for repairing the roads from the levee work. Mayor Champagne stated that would be the Parish. He also asked of the Town crew could go spread the excess dirt that was on the corner of 4th and Lafourche Street. He also stated they he and the Mayor entertained the French people who visited the Town in April.

b. Councilman Rogers made a motion to call for a Public Hearing to process a subdivision of a piece of property owned by Mr. Gary Landry for June 9, 2015 meeting. Councilman Rogers said it would allow access and development on Francis Street, and the front lot would be the same. The plans have been stamped and certified. Councilman Triche seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Councilman Rogers stated he would like for our Town Attorney to look at the paperwork as well. Councilman Rogers said a resident asked him about drainage concerns of the water on Comeaux Drive at the turnaround mostly because of mosquitoes. This was caused by of the additional add on to the turn around that was done by the Lafourche Parish School Board. The black top was an issue and actually rose in one spot and that it why the water is not able to drain properly. He suggested if and when we do streets we can address this issue. He also suggested we get an engineer to look at it and see if there is anything we can do in the meantime. Councilman Rogers asked about Police Retirement percentages. Chief Vedros stated it will be going down. Councilman Rogers asked Mayor Champagne if a new hire has a choice to choose between Municipal Retirement and Social Security. Mayor Champagne stated they have to be in the Municipal Retirement System.

c. Councilman Hartman stated that Lockport seems to be well suited for 5K races. He asked Chief Vedros about how the police force is affected by these 5K Races. Chief Vedros stated that they do have at least one police officer that we pay overtime to be present. Councilman Hartman understands that they are all fundraisers, but he suggested we look into possibly charging a fee for an organization to host a 5K a race in Town. Councilman Hartman expressed his concern about a certain employee with the Municipal Retirement System spending tax money inappropriately. Mayor Champagne stated that we will send a letter to LMA about his concern.

d. Councilman Barker- No Comments.

3. Town Attorney

Mr. Huddleston stated that we need to revisit dog ordinances. Mayor Champagne suggested we wait until July or August.

4. Staff

Ms. Himel stated that she has been working on the budget with Councilman Hartman. There is a new format compared what they have been using in the past. She has also been consulting with our auditors on the budget as well. She stated that she will deliver a hard copy to the Council within a week so they can review it before the next meeting.

S. Adjourn

The next regularly scheduled Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2015. There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion by Councilman Triche to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Councilman Hartman and carried unanimously at 9:05PM.

Town of Lockport

/s/ Paul Champagne
Paul Champagne, Mayor

/s/ Mandy Himel
Mandy Himel Town Clerk



Town of Lockport

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Mucopolysaccharidoses (MPSs) are rare genetic disorders in children and adults that involve an abnormal storage of mucopolysaccharides, caused by the absence of a specific enzyme; and

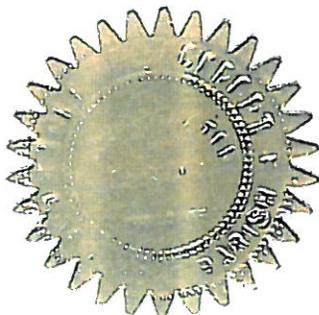
WHEREAS, the occurrence of MPS and related diseases in the general population is thought to be one in 25,000 births; and

WHEREAS, May 15th is International MPS Awareness Day, on which date the global MPS community joins together to raise awareness of MPS disease disorders and honor the individuals and families who are affected by them; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor, the Town Council, and the citizens of the Town of Lockport continue to believe that all Americans should have the chance to live full, independent lives and to follow their talents wherever they lead; and

WHEREAS, this month, we recognize Americans living with MPS, and we commit to promoting MPS awareness with the ultimate goal of improving the lives of patients living with the disease.

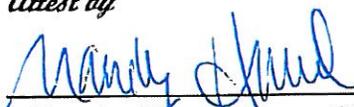
NOW THEREFORE, I, PAUL CHAMPAGNE, MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF LOCKPORT, on behalf of the Town Council and the citizens of Lockport, do hereby proclaim May 15 as MPS Awareness Day, and I encourage each of us to learn more about MPS and what we can do to support individuals living with MPS and their families.



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 19th day of May, A.D. 2015.


Paul Champagne, Mayor

Attest by


Mandy Himel, Town Clerk

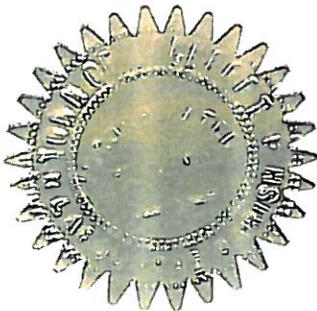


Town of Lockport

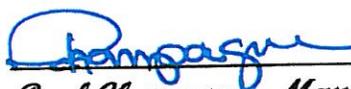
Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** the second Sunday in May has long been recognized as the day to honor mothers and their commitment to children. The Friday before Mother's Day, May 8, 2015, is Provider Appreciation Day, a special day to recognize child care providers, teachers, school-age program staff, child care center directors and staff, and all those who work with children and are responsible for their education and care. It is estimated that nearly 11 million children under age 5 are cared for by 2.8 million child care providers in the United States, and
- WHEREAS,** the Childcare Association of Louisiana, a statewide, nonprofit organization represents the interests of licensed childcare providers and the children they serve, and wholeheartedly endorses and promotes the National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day, and
- WHEREAS,** the mission of the Childcare Association of Louisiana is to educate, advocate, and collaborate to build a premier, proactive childcare industry for Louisiana families, and
- WHEREAS,** by calling attention to the importance of high quality child care services for all children and families within the state of Louisiana, the Childcare Association of Louisiana and other advocacy organizations hope to improve the quality and availability of such services, and
- WHEREAS,** our future depends on the quality of the early childhood experiences provided to young children today, high quality early childcare services represent a worthy commitment to our children's future, and
- WHEREAS,** "Every child should have access to a high a quality early childhood educational program and be prepared to enter kindergarten ready to learn" says Alan Young, President of Child Care Association of Louisiana.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that May 8, 2015, shall be hereby designated as Child Care Provider Appreciation Day in the Town of Lockport and all citizens are urged to recognize licensed childcare providers for their important work



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 19th day of May, A.D. 2015.



Paul Champagne, Mayor

Attest by



Mandy Himel, Town Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-002

An ordinance to amend the Lockport
Code of Ordinances so as to amend
Section 2-6

BE IT ORDAINED by the Lockport Town Council in regular session
assembled that the Lockport Town Code of Ordinances is hereby amended
and re-enacted so as to amend Section 2-6
to read as follows:

SECTION 2-6 RENTAL OF TOWN PROPERTY

- (A) The mayor is hereby authorized to enter into a lease agreement with
Halifax Theater Company for the terms and conditions stated in the
attached Lease Agreement.

The vote on the ordinance was as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers: Barker, Hartman, and Rogers

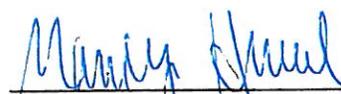
NAYS: Councilman Triche

ABSENT: Councilwoman Guidry

The ordinance was declared adopted this 19th day of May, 2015.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


TOWN CLERK

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-003

An ordinance to amend the Lockport
Code of Ordinances so as to amend
Section 2-6

BE IT ORDAINED by the Lockport Town Council in regular session
assembled that the Lockport Town Code of Ordinances is hereby amended
and re-enacted so as to amend Section 2-6
to read as follows:

SECTION 2-6 RENTAL OF TOWN PROPERTY

(B) The mayor is hereby authorized to enter into a lease agreement with
Friends of Traditional Louisiana Boat Building for the terms and
conditions stated in the attached Lease Agreement.

The vote on the ordinance was as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers: Barker, Hartman, and Rogers

NAYS: Councilman Triche

ABSENT: Councilwoman Guidry

The ordinance was declared adopted this 19th day of May, 2015.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


TOWN CLERK

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-003

An ordinance to amend the Lockport
Code of Ordinances so as to amend
Section 2-6

BE IT ORDAINED by the Lockport Town Council in regular session
assembled that the Lockport Town Code of Ordinances is hereby amended
and re-enacted so as to amend Section 2-6
to read as follows:

SECTION 2-6 RENTAL OF TOWN PROPERTY

- (A) The mayor is hereby authorized to enter into a lease agreement with
CHRISTOPHER J. HUDDLESTON for the terms and conditions
stated in the attached Lease Agreement.

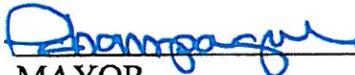
The vote on the ordinance was as follows:

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

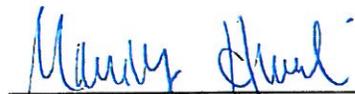
NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Guidry.

The ordinance was declared adopted this 19th day of May, 2015.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


TOWN CLERK