

**Town of Lockport
Lockport, Louisiana**

Minutes of Regular Meeting November 17, 2015

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 17, 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 Mandy Himel. The Pledge of Allegiance was 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 Craig Rogers was absent. Also present were Mandy Himel, Town Attorney Chris Huddleston, and Chief of Police Warren Vedros.

E. Approval of Minutes for October 20, 2015, Regular Meeting

Mayor Champagne asked if there were any corrections or comments concerning the minutes of the October 20, 2015, meeting. Councilman Barker made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

F. Approval of Financial Statements for the month ending October 31, 2015

Mayor Champagne asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the financial statements for the month ending October 31, 2015. Councilman Triche moved and Councilwoman Guidry seconded a motion to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Public Wishing to Address the Council

Mr. Gary Acosta addressed the Council representing the American Legion and all the Veterans. He thanked them for including them in raising the MIA flag at Town hall on Veterans Day. He asked for permission to put a Veterans Memorial Monument in the Town. He stated it would be in honor and memory of all people who served in the armed forces. He said there will be no names on it because he thinks the monument would be an honor in itself. Mayor Champagne asked about the dimensions of the monument. Mayor Champagne stated it would be up to the Council if they would allow them to put a monument in Town. They would also determine the location of the monument. Councilman Hartman made a motion to allow the American Legion to erect a monument to be placed in Town, seconded unanimously by the Council. Mr. Acosta will come back at a later time to discuss a location for the monument. Mr. Acosta also asked the Council if they would be allowed to sell concessions for the Christmas parade. Councilman Triche made a motion to allow American legion to sell concessions for the Christmas parade by Capital one Bank Parking lot. Councilwoman Guidry seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Mayor Champagne thanked all the Veterans for their services.

Mr. Robert Theriot from Raceland addressed the Council about a car museum. He is interested in possibly establishing one in Town, and asked them if they knew of any places that would be available for this type of business.

H. 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 Triche asked Chief Vedros about monitoring speeding on Barataria and Lafourche Street. Chief Vedros stated he is trying to get a trailer from the Sheriff's office to monitor speeding down those streets to have more accurate information through that study. A motion was made by Councilman Triche and seconded by Councilman Hartman to accept the Police Report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

I. GSE Report

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

1. Sewer Rehabilitation (Northwest Quadrant):

Notice of Award and Construction Agreement Contract were sent to Suncoast Infrastructure, Inc. on October 21, 2015.

2. Sewer Rehabilitation (Southwest Quadrants):

The engineering agreement has been approved by DEQ. Surveying should start within the next two weeks.

3. **Street Repairs:**

A Capital Outlay Application was submitted for funds to pay for street repairs throughout the Town of Lockport. \$1,200,000 was appropriated as Priority 2 (General Obligation Bonds). The Town submitted the Line of Credit Forms in mid-September.

4. **Capital Outlay Request 2016:**

A Capital Outlay request were made for street improvements and drainage improvements on Church Street. Awards will be made in June 2016.

J. Proclamations

Epilepsy Awareness Month

Councilman Barker made a motion to adopt the above stated proclamation. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

K. Resolutions

1. Adopting the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as of June 30, 2015 and for the Year Ended

Councilman Hartman made a motion to pass the above stated resolution. Councilwoman Guidry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

L. Reports

Call for Public Hearings

1. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 2-234 and 2-238 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, TOWN OF LOCKPORT, LOUISIANA, TO RE-ENACT A SCHEDULE OF FINES AND COURT COSTS FOR VIOLATIONS OF CERTAIN TRAFFIC OFFENSES, CRIMINAL OFFENSES, AND MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES AND TO REPEAL SECTIONS 2-235, 2-236, and 2-237 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, TOWN OF LOCKPORT, LOUISIANA, PERTAINING TO PAST FINE SCHEDULES.

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

2. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SCHEDULE OF BONDS, FINES, AND COURT COST FOR TRAFFIC OFFENSES AND A SCHEDULE OF BONDS, FINES, AND COURT COST FOR MISDEMEANOR CRIMINAL OFFENSES AND MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS.

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

3. AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL SECTION 10-3 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, TOWN OF LOCKPORT, LOUISIANA, AND TO ENACT ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 10 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, TOWN OF LOCKPORT, LOUISIANA, PERTAINING TO VICIOUS ANIMALS.

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

1. Mayor

Mayor Champagne stated Ms. Elaine Domangue, Administrative Assistant, has retired from the Town of Lockport. He stated they appreciated her 19 years of service. He read aloud the dedicated service award that was presented to her during the week. He asked the Council again about selling the Water plant and the empty lot. Councilman Hartman is still open to put it out for bid as surplus property if the Council would like to sell the property. Mayor Champagne stated we would have to get it surveyed, set boundaries, and possibly rezone that area. He stated we don't use these properties so we should consider selling them. Mayor Champagne stated he would like to have an entire Council here before discussing further and making any decisions. Mayor Champagne recommended for Mr. Huddleston to introduce an ordinance to present to the Council at the December meeting regarding blighted property hearings. Again, he would like to discuss this further when we have a full Council so we can get everyone's input.

2. Council

- a. Councilwoman Guidry stated she will be putting up Christmas decorations around the Town and the Town Hall. She stated Spook in the Park went well, and she appreciated everyone's help. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
- b. Councilman Hartman suggested the Town Clerk or whoever was in charge of different things to send out emails to keep them informed. Councilman Hartman agreed with Councilman Triche if we do sell those properties discussed earlier that we set up special funds to dedicate to certain things.

c. Councilman Barker- No comment.

d. Councilman Triche thanked everyone for their help for Spook in the Park. He stated they will be at the Park this weekend to put lights up for Christmas.

3. Town Attorney- No comment.

4. Staff- No comment.

M. Adjourn

The next scheduled regular Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 15, 2015. 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 it carried unanimously at 8:16 PM.

Town of Lockport

/s/ Paul Champagne
Paul Champagne, Mayor

/s/ Mandy Himel
Mandy Himel, Town Clerk



Town of Lockport

Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** epilepsy is a neurological condition characterized by recurrent, unprovoked seizures; and
- WHEREAS,** epilepsy and seizures affect three million people across the United States, ten percent of the American population will experience a seizure in their lifetime, and three percent will develop epilepsy by the age of 75; and
- WHEREAS,** while epilepsy cannot currently be cured, many of those diagnosed with epilepsy can control their seizures with modern medicine and surgical techniques; and
- WHEREAS,** although epilepsy can affect anyone regardless of gender, race, age, religion, educational background, or socioeconomic status, people with epilepsy continue to face social stigmatization and discrimination; 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,** National Epilepsy Awareness Month is designed to increase awareness of the disorder in an effort to encourage more Americans to understand the effects of epilepsy.
- 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 November as Epilepsy Awareness Month, and I encourage each of us to learn more about epilepsy and what we can do to support individuals with epilepsy 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 17th day of November, A.D. 2015

/s/ Paul Champagne
Paul Champagne, Mayor

Attest by
/s/ Mandy Himel
Mandy Himel, Town Clerk

RESOLUTION 2015-013

**A Written Resolution adopting the
Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire
As of June 30, 2015 and for the
Year then ended.**

WHEREAS, the preparation and adoption of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire is a required part of the financial and compliance audit of Louisiana governmental units, and

WHEREAS, the auditing firm of Stagni & Company LLC is in the process of performing a financial and compliance audit of the Town of Lockport as of June 30, 2015 and for the year then ended; and

WHEREAS, the required Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as of June 30, 2015 and for the year then ended has been prepared and presented to the Town Council for review and adoption;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council on behalf of the Town of Lockport, that the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as of June 30, 2015 and for the year then ended, be hereby accepted and approved, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the auditing firm of Stagni & Company LLC.

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

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

NAYS: 00.

ABSENT: Councilman Rogers

READ, RENDERED, and ADOPTED on the 17th day of November, 2015.

/s/ Paul Champagne _____
Paul Champagne
MAYOR, TOWN OF LOCKPORT

* * * * *

I, Mandy Himel, 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 Town Council of the Town of Lockport, at a meeting held on the 17th day of November, 2015, 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 17th day of November, 2015.

ATTEST:

/s/ Mandy Himel _____
Mandy Himel, Town Clerk