

**Town of Lockport
Lockport, Louisiana**

Minutes of Regular Meeting September 20, 2016

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 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 led by Mayor Champagne.

D. Roll Call

The roll was called with the following present: Mayor Paul Champagne, Councilmembers: Sharon Guidry, Rodney Hartman, Craig Rogers, Donovan Barker, and Weldon Triche. Also present were Town Clerk Mandy Himel, Chief of Police Warren Vedros, Mr. Bryan Adams, Ms. Karen Adams, Mr. Wayne Bourgeois, Jr, Ms. Bobbie Morris Galjour, Mr. Mark Rodriguez, Mr. Ron Sapia, Ms. Mary Lynn Blanchard, and Mr. Floyd Cretini.

E. Approval of Minutes for August 16, 2016 Regular Meeting

Mayor Champagne asked if there were any corrections or comments concerning the minutes of the August 16, 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 August 31, 2016

Mayor Champagne asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the financial statements for the month ending August 31, 2016. 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. A motion was made by Councilman Rogers and seconded by Councilwoman Guidry 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. Sewer Rehabilitation (Northwest Quadrant):

Substantial Completion has been recorded. There are outstanding punch list items left to complete and the project is still in lien period. The project is approximately 98% complete. Suncoast has submitted a proposal to install full service liners on the four services on School Street between Orange and Walnut Streets. If the Town agrees, this will be added to the project as a Change Order item.

2. Sewer Rehabilitation (Southwest Quadrants):

Plans and specifications are at 95% complete. All rights-of-way have been received. The plans and specifications have been submitted to DEQ for approval. Upon receiving approval, the Town can put the project out for bids.

3. Street Repairs:

A Capital Outlay Application was submitted for funds to pay for asphalt street overlay and repairs. Funding for this project is still questionable.

Mr. Breaud asked the Council if they wanted to install the full services liners now as a Change Order or wait to do it with the last quadrant. Councilman Rogers asked when these problems were discovered. Mr. Breaud stated it was about a month when the water was coming out from the hole in the ditch by Oak Street. Councilman Triche asked if we should wait or do it now with the rainy conditions. Mr. Breaud stated it should be done now, and the rain would not affect the project. Councilman Rogers asked when are we scheduled for them to come back and do camera work. Mr. Breaud stated they are working on that now. Councilman Rogers asked how much will this project help with infiltration issues in these areas (Orange Street, Walnut Street, Oak Street, etc). Mr. Breaud said this line will go from the inside the main to the property lines. Councilman Rogers made a motion to complete the full repairs in these areas. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Councilman Triche asked Mr. Breaud if they tested the efficiency of the pumps on Lower Catherine Street yet. Mr. Breaud stated they have not gotten to that because the man who was supposed to do it got tied up in Baton Rouge area. Councilman Rogers asked Mr. Breaud if we were going to run the camera systems in the main lines and property lines.

I. Resolution

1. Adopting the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as of June 30, 2016 and for the Year Ended

Councilman Hartman moved, and Councilwoman Guidry seconded a motion to accept the above stated resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Authorizing the filing of an application for the LGAP-Local Government Assistance Program Grant

Councilman Triche moved, and Councilman Rogers seconded a motion to accept the above stated resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Champagne suggested we apply for the grant to clean/remove the trees in the Church Street Drainage ditch. This would improve drainage issues. Councilman Rogers stated he was in total agreement because we are waiting on North Lafourche Levee District for funds to close in that ditch. He said this would show participation into the cost for this project. He stated in the NLLD proposed budget the funds are there for this project. Councilman Triche feels the whole Town would benefit from this project.

J. Call for Public Hearing

1. To Adopt an ordinance to amend ordinance 2015-010 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of Lockport, LA and to reenact a schedule of bonds, fines, and court costs for traffic offenses and a schedule of bonds, fines, and court costs for misdemeanor criminal offenses and municipal ordinance violations.

Councilwoman Guidry made a motion to call for a public hearing on the above stated topic. Councilman Barker seconded the motion, it carried unanimously.

K. Reports

Mayor

Mayor Champagne stated Spook in the Park will be Monday, October 31, 2016. Councilman Triche said he would take care of everything. Mayor Champagne stated we will be there for whatever he needs. We have received the grant from Entergy for \$500.00 for Spook in the Park and \$500.00 for Christmas in the Park. The Town wide Garage sale will be October 1, 2016. Traditional Boat Museum is having a jambalaya fundraiser on September 29, 2016. The American Legion is having a hamburger steak fundraiser on September 26, 2016. He stated health insurance went up .5% from last year. Mr. Wayne Bourgeois stated the installation of Officers for Fire Department will be October 1, 2016 at 6:00pm, and the Council is invited He also stated that the fire department purchased \$1,800.00 in Halloween candy for Spook in the Park. Mr. Bourgeois stated the La Fete Des Vieux Temp Festival will be October 8-10, 2016. They will have demos, bands, sauce picante cook off, etc.

Council

1. Councilwoman Guidry asked about Catherine Street with the drainage problem. Mayor Champagne stated we have engineers looking into this issue. She stated she has fall flags to put on the poles.
2. Councilman Hartman stated that over the last few months we talked about the streets. He is concerned the citizens are not informed enough about this issue. We are taking steps to fix the streets. Over the last few months, we received the Ok from the DOTD that we have about \$900,000.00 available to us. He stated the Governor has this on his desk and not acted on it. He also said we have about \$400,000.00 from DOTD for repairs. He wants the citizens to know this is being held up at the Governor's Office. He understands the Governor's position with wanting to see how the state budget will come out. He commended the Administration and Mayor for staying on top of this issue. He stated it might be a few more months before we hear anything. He stated possibly the new administration can look at trying to work with Parish President and Council on getting Lockport in the Road Sales Tax through an election. He feels this will help Lockport with the street issues. He stated we will do everything we can to get this resolved as soon as possible.
3. Councilman Barker- no report.
4. Councilman Triche mentioned the levee on Canal Street. He stated the street on Canal from Crescent to First is deplorable, the street from Lafourche to First is deplorable, first, second, third, and fourth Street is torn up. There was agreement to repair these streets. Mayor Champagne stated he has not heard anything yet. He asked about trash pick up with Progressive. They furnish us with green dumpsters. They will not pick up garbage or trash that would fit in the garbage cans. He wanted to know if there was a way to notify residents on the trash pick up regulations. Mayor Champagne stated the regulation set forth by Lafourche Parish is published on the Parish website and their Facebook and our Facebook. He stated we will put it on our website as well.
5. Councilman Rogers mentioned the garbage process has improved quite a bit. He stated he shared the post through Facebook as well. He suggested we post it on our Town website as well. He commended Progressive for doing requested work in a timely fashion. We do have issues with grass, trash, etc and unfortunately had to let people know about their yards. People do care about theirs yards, but they just need help to do it. He stated he is working with churches to get other clean up done in Town. He mentioned putting the mosquito dunks that can be dropped in the standing water to kill larva to prevent more mosquitoes in Town. He mentioned the Lafourche Parish Transportation planning process meeting. He feels we need to get involved with that. He urged everyone to vote in the upcoming election. He stated to please exercise your right to vote.

L. Public Wishing to Address the Council

Mr. Wayne Bourgeois, 302 Lafourche Street, stated he wanted to give an update on the streets near the levee on Canal Street. It was under budget, so now they have put it out for bids to repair all the streets that were damaged. The contractor will dig up and overlay Canal Street and the four cross streets. This will be done before the completion and signing off of the project.

M. Adjourn

The next scheduled regular Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 18, 2016. 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 7:41 PM.

Town of Lockport

/s/ Paul Champagne
Paul Champagne, Mayor

/s/ Mandy Himel
Mandy Himel, Town Clerk