

**Town of Lockport
Lockport, Louisiana**

Minutes of Regular Meeting November 20, 2018

The Mayor and Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 7:00PM, at the Lockport Town Hall Complex.

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

Mayor Edward Reinhardt called the meeting to order. The opening prayer was offered by Mandy Himel. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Reinhardt.

D. Roll Call

The roll was called with the following present: Mayor Edward Reinhardt, Councilmembers Stephen Baudoin, Wayne Bourgeois, Jr., and Rodney Hartman. Councilwomen Guidry and Galjour were absent. Also present were Town Clerk Mandy Himel, Town Attorney Chris Huddleston, Chief David Harrelson, Jr., Allie Rasid, Sr., Linda Arcement, Bruce Arcement, Cheryl Cavalier, John Arvello, Charlene Rodriguez, and Mark Rodriguez.

E. Approval of Minutes for October 16, 2018, Regular Meeting

Mayor Reinhardt asked for approval of the minutes for October 16, 2018. Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilman Baudoin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

F. Approval of Financial Statements for month ending October 31, 2018

Mayor Reinhardt asked for a motion to accept the financial statements for the month ending October 31, 2018. Councilman Hartman moved, and Councilman Bourgeois seconded a motion to approve the financial statements as presented. It carried unanimously.

G. Police Report

Mayor Reinhardt called on the Chief to report on the department's activities. Chief Harrelson distributed copies of the monthly activity report. A motion was made by Councilman Baudoin and seconded by Councilman Hartman to accept the police report as presented. It carried unanimously.

H. Providence Report

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

1. Street Repairs:

The contractor has begun work and should be complete by March 4, 2019. Phase II of the street project will be submitted to the State for review by the end of November.

2. Sewer Rehabilitation (Sewer Force Main and SCADA):

This project is on hold to concentrate on infiltration issues.

3. Comeaux/Catherine Street Drainage Improvements:

The right-of-way has been staked out and flagged. Residents have begun removing items that were encroaching on the right-of-way. The Mayor is discussing funding with the Drainage and Levee District. A capital outlay application will be submitted requesting funds for Lockport's portion of this project.

4. Infiltration Investigation:

The smart covers were received and installed. Data is being collected and analyzed.

Councilman Hartman made a motion to go into public hearing. Councilman Baudoin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

I. Public Hearing

1. Discuss Lafourche Parish Sheriff Office Lease

Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office would like their rent to remain at \$800 per month until June 30, 2018. Discussion took place.

Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to get out of public hearing. Councilman Baudoin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to allow Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office (PACT Place) to continue to pay \$800 rent per month until June 30, 2018. Councilman Baudoin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

J. Reports

1. Mayor

Mayor Reinhardt stated we checked into everything with the backhoe, and we need a motion to buy it on state contract. Discussion took place. Councilman Hartman made a motion to purchase the backhoe on state contract#4400015170 from Lee Tractor in the amount of \$68,670.36. Councilman Baudoin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Mayor Reinhardt stated he went to the drainage district meeting, and stated

they are willing to help us out. He stated we got the cost down to \$125,000.00 to clean out the servitude. He stated we would need to put up thirty percent of whatever the bid would be. Discussion took place. Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to commit to paying thirty percent or not to exceed \$40,000.00 for the Comeaux/Catherine drainage project. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Mayor Reinhardt stated the town has \$500 left over from Halloween. He asked the council if we could move that money to the Christmas account to purchase new lights/decorations for the park. He thanked Lafourche Ford, Mr. Pat Barker (Allstate), Laris Insurance, Community Fellowship Church, Rouses, Bandidos, and the Lockport Farm Market. Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to move the \$500 from Halloween account to the Christmas account to purchase only decorations for the park. Councilman Baudoin seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

2. Council

a. Council Baudoin asked about the area on Lafourche Street between Crescent and First. He noticed there were cracks in the blacktop. He thought that was done not that long ago by DOTD. He looked like there was some settlement or weight issues. Discussion took place. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

b. Councilman Hartman- He wished everyone a Happy and safe Thanksgiving. He stated at 10am tomorrow is the ground breaking ceremony for the new recreation center.

c. Councilman Bourgeois stated everything looks like it is going up well in the park. He stated as always the volunteers are willing to help as needed whether it would be restringing the lights or whatever. He stated the tree lighting will be November 30, 2018. Ms. Flo Bradford had her Grand Marshall party, and she is looking forward to it. He stated December 1, 2018 is the Christmas Parade. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He hopes we don't get too much rain so we can see more street progress.

3. Town Attorney- no report.

4. Staff-The town clerk reminded councilmembers about annual ethics training.

Chief Harrelson stated he received a lot of calls of people who are upset due to the new parade route for Christmas parade. He said he did research, and there is an ordinance in place that the town council has to approve any changes to parade routes. Chief Harrelson stated the citizens of Lockport want the parade route to remain the same. He also stated he is all for safety, but we have to follow the law. Mayor Reinhardt stated it takes one time for something to happen. He stated his supervisor even agreed it was an unsafe route. Mayor Reinhardt stated he was doing it for the kid's sake and safety reasons. Councilman Bourgeois stated for this year he thinks it should remain as the same route. Mayor Reinhardt stated we should change it for the safety of the children. Councilman Hartman stated we should have had a public hearing for people to express their concerns about the route. Mr. Huddleston stated the ordinance stated the parade route has to be approved by the council. He stated we do not have to have a public hearing to change it. The council can make the change it tonight if they chose to do so. There was no action taken.

K. Public Wishing to address the Council

1. Ms. Cheryl Cavalier, 106 Hamilton Street, Larose, asked the council if they would allow VITA to use the meeting room for conduct their free tax program for the next two years. Councilman Bourgeois made a motion to allow VITA to use the chambers for the 2018-2019 tax years. Councilman Hartman seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

2. Mr. Weldon Triche, 321 Canal Street, expressed his concerns about the arguing over a Christmas parade route. He expressed his concerns about the bellsouth telephones poles. The town clerk stated she has called several times, but bellsouth wants exact locations. He stated all of them. Councilman Bourgeois sent in addresses as well. Councilman Baudoin asked if we can get a representative from bellsouth and utilities companies for the Town of Lockport. Mr. Triche mentioned animals running at large issues. He also mentioned blighted properties. Mayor Reinhardt stated people are starting to clean up around town. Mr. Triche also brought up the contractors working in town on the streets, and how the council should promote business in town. The council stated they cannot do that legally. Mr. Triche talked about 15 mph speed limit on School Street. He stated there is no warning to slow down, and we should have some flashing caution lights or a police unit with blue lights. Small discussion took place. Mr. Triche stated the Christmas lights have to be handled with care.

O. Adjourn

The next scheduled regular Town meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 18, 2018. There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion by Councilman Bourgeois to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Councilman Hartman. It carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 8:08PM.

Town of Lockport

/s/ Edward Reinhardt
Edward Reinhardt, Mayor

/s/ Mandy Himel
Mandy Himel, Town Clerk