

**IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2016**

The Parish Council of Iberville Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session, in the Council Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Courthouse Building, 58050 Meriam Street, Plaquemine, Louisiana, on the 20th day of December, 2016.

The Council Chairman, Matthew H. Jewell, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the roll call with the following Council Members in attendance: Warren Taylor, District 1; Mitchel J. Ourso, Sr.; District 2; Thomas E. Dominique, Sr., District 3; Leonard Jackson, Sr., District 4; Edwin M. Reeves, Jr., District 5; Courtney P. Lewis, District 6; Ty J. Arnold, District 7; Hunter S. Markins, District 8; Terry J. Bradford, District 9; Louis R. Kelley, Jr., District 10; Timothy J. Vallet, District 11; Matthew H. Jewell, District 12; Bart B. Morgan, District 13.

Absent: None.

Parish President- J. Mitchell Ourso, Jr., Chief Administrative Officer- Edward Songy and Legal Counsel- Scott Stassi were also in attendance.

A quorum was present and due notice had been published in the official journal on the 15th day of December, 2016. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Council Chairman Jewell called for anyone wanting to make public comments to register with the Clerk. No one registered to speak.

PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

- A) Resolution of Recognition for Reverend Johnny Williams- Taylor
- Reverend Johnny Williams was presented a resolution of recognition by the Council in honor of his 50th Anniversary as the Pastor of the Greater Progressive Baptist Church. Vice Chairman Taylor read the resolution aloud and a picture was taken for the newspaper.
- B) Plaque presented to Councilman Reeves by the Council
- Chairman Jewell read aloud a plaque presented to Councilman Reeves to honor his 13 years of dedicated services to District No. 5. Each Council member thanked Councilman Reeves for his service and dedication and congratulated him on his new role as the Mayor of the City of Plaquemine. A picture was taken of the entire Council with outgoing member Councilman Reeves.
- C) Recognize newly elected Rosedale Mayor Riley Blanchet
- This item was passed on.
- D) Recognize newly elected Rosedale Alderman Carroll Devillier
- This item was passed on.

E) Presentation by Hearing Officer, Arthur Bagwell

- Attorney Arthur Bagwell came before the Council to discuss his new role as the Parish's Hearing Officer. He stated there are two important factors in which the Hearing Officer makes his or her decision and the first is whether or not the property owner has had due process, and the second is the hearing of the case. He thanked the Council for this honor to serve the Parish as its Hearing Officer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Councilman Reeves, and seconded by Councilman Taylor, it was moved to wave the reading of the minutes of November 15, 2016 and approve as written. The motion having been duly submitted to a vote was duly adopted by the following ye and nay votes on roll call:

YEAS: Taylor, Ourso, Dominique, Jackson, Reeves, Lewis, Arnold, Markins, Bradford, Kelley, Vallet, Morgan.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Ourso reported on the following:

- President Ourso wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
- He congratulated Reverend Williams on his 50th Anniversary as the Pastor of the Greater Progressive Baptist Church.
- The pillions will be installed on Bayou Manchac Road, and it will be closed from January 2, 2017 to January 19, 2017. There will be a detour through Bayou Paul Road during this time.
- Papers were handed out to the Council. The Community Services Department helped secure a \$175,000 grant to assist eligible low income households with their energy payments. All applications are taken on a first come, first serve basis. The dates and locations are listed below to apply.
White Castle Community Center- January 10, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
North Iberville Community Center- January 18, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Grosse Tete and Rosedale only)
North Iberville Community Center- January 19, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Maringouin only)
St. Gabriel Community Center- January 24, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
St. Gabriel Community Center- January 25, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- This November has been the greatest amount of sales tax the Parish has ever collected. It is 23% higher than the entire year of 2015. It has been a great year in sales tax collections for 2016.

- The Parish just received signed permits from the Corps of Engineers office to begin the inspection of Manchac Road and the Alligator Bayou Floodgate structures. They did not provide a timeline of the repairs and they will both be closed until further.
- The City of St. Gabriel has a drainage project going on and a two inch gas line was busted. It was repaired and no one was injured.
- President Ourso asked the Council to request the presence of the six municipality mayors to the next Council meeting to discuss the conflicting municipality ordinances regarding Animal Control. The Parish is requesting a universal ordinance for Animal Control to be adopted by the Council and the municipalities.
- The Parish received a federal grant from the Highway Commission. The railroad crossings in Doreseyville and one in North Plaquemine are some of the worst crossings in the country. The grant will repair these crossings.
- The Parish's Employee Christmas Luncheon will be Thursday, December 22, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at the Council on Aging.

Councilman Morgan thanked President Ourso and the Parish staff for their efforts in East Iberville.

Councilman Reeves asked about the status of Highway 77 in Councilman Bradford's district. President Ourso stated he has not had any updates. Councilman Bradford said he was told the repairs would be complete sometime in January or February of next year.

Councilman Arnold asked for an update on the HVAC repairs in the Courthouse. President Ourso explained they are currently working on the third floor and they are estimated to be back into the Courthouse around the middle of January. The final phase will be the first floor and it will begin in the second week of February. The Clerk of Court's office will be moved first and a wall will be built to allow the Sheriff's Office to remain in the Courthouse during that time.

President Ourso presented a plaque to outgoing member Councilman Reeves. He read the plaque aloud and thanked Councilman Reeves for his 13 years of dedicated service to the Parish of Iberville. A picture was taken for the newspaper.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT

Mr. Hank Grace stated there was nothing to report at this time.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Randall Dunn wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A) Introduction of Ordinances

The following ordinances were introduced by Mr. Songy:

- 1) Ordinance to purchase property from the Town of Maringouin for location of a new Iberville Parish Council on Aging Facility located at the intersection of Wheelock Lane and La. Highway 77 identified as Tract Number A-1-A-2 on a survey map prepared by John G. Dunlap, P.L.S. dated November 21, 2016
- 2) Ordinance to remove a portion of tract of land from Town of Maringouin Industrial Area for construction of Iberville Parish Council on Aging Facility

Upon a motion by Councilman Vallet, seconded by Councilman Bradford, it was moved that a public hearing be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. on the introduced ordinances.

The motion having been duly submitted to a vote, was duly adopted by the following yeas and nays votes on roll call:

YEAS: Taylor, Ourso, Dominique, Jackson, Reeves, Lewis, Arnold, Markins, Bradford, Kelley, Vallet, Morgan.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman on December 20, 2016.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Councilman Kelley, and seconded by Councilman Reeves to adjourn at 7:13 p.m.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

/s/ KIRSHA D. BARKER
COUNCIL CLERK

/s/ MATTHEW H. JEWELL
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN