

**IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2020**

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 15th day of September, 2020.

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: Shalanda L. Allen, District 1; Chasity B. Easley; District 2; Thomas E. Dominique, Sr., District 3; Leonard Jackson, Sr., District 4; Steve C. Smith District 5; Ty J. Arnold, District 7; Terry J. Bradford, District 9; Louis R. Kelley, Jr., District 10; Timothy J. Vallet, District 11; Matthew H. Jewell, District 12.

Absent: Raheem T. Pierce, District 6; Hunter S. Markins, District 8; Bart B. Morgan, District 13.

Chief Administrative Officer- Edward Songy and Legal Counsel- Scott Stassi were also in attendance.

A quorum was present and due notice had been posted and published in the Plaquemine Post South newspaper on the 10th day of September 2020. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. A moment of silence was held for Ms. Amy Johnson, a constituent of District 3.

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

ADDENDUM

None.

PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

A) Candidacy Announcement for City Council District #2 and bicycle rack request for the Iberville Parish Courthouse – Luke Avants

- Mr. Luke Avants came before the Council to announce his candidacy for City Council District #2. Mr. Avants briefly discussed his background as a lifelong resident of Plaquemine and Iberville Parish, a 2001 graduate of St. John High School, a political activist, and a meritoriously ranked United States Marine Corps Veteran who served for 5 years. As a candidate for City Council District #2 he is open to any discussion regarding City District #2 and can be reached at 225-324-2087.
- Mr. Avants stated his main reason for appearing tonight was to discuss the bike racks that are no longer at the Courthouse and the City Hall. He does not know if the bike racks were lost during renovations or if they were removed for an undisclosed reason, but he is requesting that they be replaced. He stated Iberville Parish residents need a designated area to park their bicycles while visiting local governmental buildings to conduct business. There are many people in this area

who ride a bicycle because it is their only mode of transportation, and they do not have a designated area to park. Mr. Avants is requesting that the Iberville Parish Council set aside \$500,000 in the 2021 budget to provide bicycle racks for the following buildings: the Iberville Parish Courthouse, the Council on Aging facilities, the Iberville Parish Belleview Library, the Parish President's Office, as well as all Iberville Parish Municipality City Halls. He thanked the Council for their time, and there were no questions.

- Chairman Jewell stated they would take this request under advisement and forward it to the Parish's Administration.
- Councilman Dominique thanked Mr. Avants for serving our country.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Councilman Jackson, and seconded by Councilman Dominique, it was moved to wave the reading of the minutes of August 18, 2020 and approve as written. The motion having been duly submitted to a vote was duly adopted by the following yea and nay votes on roll call:

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Jackson, Smith, Arnold, Bradford, Kelley, Vallet.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Pierce, Markins, Morgan.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Chief Administrative Office, Edward Songy, Jr. reported on the following in the absence of President Ourso:

- Mr. Songy stated the construction is near completion for the Civic Center's renovations.
- The construction is also near completion for the Eureka Road project.
- The Sales Tax Collections for August 2020 was \$5,687,000 which was higher than August of 2019.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director, Randall Dunn stated financial statements have been presented to the Council tonight due to the meeting being early this month. They do not receive the taxes until the 10th of each month and that is why they did not receive it in the mail. He stated the sales taxes are continuing to come in well and within what was budgeted. He also talked about work being done on the support beams and gutters of the civic center and expects it to be complete within a few weeks.

OLD BUSINESS

A) Ordinance requiring identification for access to the Iberville Parish Courthouse

- This agenda item has been passed on and rescheduled for a Public Hearing on Tuesday,

October 20, 2020. Notices have been posted.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Resolution Committee met on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 6:20 p.m., followed by the roll call with the following Resolution Committee Members only in attendance: Smith, Vallet, Arnold, Kelley, Jackson, Dominique.

Absent: Pierce, Markins, Morgan.

The following resolutions were read aloud by Mr. Songy:

- A) Resolution to relocate Voting Precinct No. 4 from White Castle Fire Station No. 3 located at 57660 LA Highway 404, White Castle, Louisiana to White Castle Council on Aging building located at 34625 K.C. Drive, White Castle, Louisiana
- B) Resolution adopting the Annual Certification of Compliance with the State of Louisiana Off System Bridge Replacement Program
- C) Resolution to declare certain used movable property as surplus property and to be sold at public auction/sale in accordance with Louisiana law

There were no questions from the Council or the public.

Councilman Vallet made a recommendation to forward the resolutions to the regular meeting, seconded by Councilman Arnold. The recommendation having been duly submitted to a vote was duly adopted by the following ye and nay votes on roll call by Resolution Committee Members only:

YEAS: Smith, Vallet, Arnold, Kelley, Jackson, Dominique.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Pierce, Markins, Morgan.

The recommendation was declared adopted by the Chairman to forward the resolutions to the regular meeting.

DURING THE REGULAR MEETING:

RESOLUTION IPC# 2020-009

**RESOLUTION TO RELOCATE VOTING PRECINCT NO. 4 FROM WHITE CASTLE
FIRE STATION NO. 3 LOCATED AT 57660 LA. HIGHWAY 404, WHITE CASTLE,
LOUISIANA TO WHITE CASTLE COUNCIL ON AGING BUILDING LOCATED AT
34625 K.C. DRIVE, WHITE CASTLE, LOUISIANA**

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Smith, and seconded by Councilman Arnold.

Whereas voting precinct number 4 is currently located in White Castle, Louisiana at 57660 La. Highway 404, White Castle, LA 70788 in a public building, namely the White Castle Fire Station No. 3. Whereas the Iberville Parish Council has constructed a new Council on Aging facility in White Castle, La located at 34625 K.C. Drive, White Castle, LA 70788. The new Council on Aging facility located at 34625 K.C. Drive, White Castle, LA 70788 is a modern facility that will provide all necessities, increased parking and handicapped accessibility and modern conveniences to the commissioners and voters. This new Council on Aging location at 34625 K. C. Drive, White Castle, LA 70788 is owned by the Iberville Parish Council.

Whereas, the new Council on Aging facility located at 34625 K. C. Drive, White Castle, LA 70788 is a state of the art facility and will better provide for the needs and convenience of commissioners and voters and is completely handicapped accessible. The previous fire station no. 3 located at 57660 La. Highway 404, has become unsuitable for the voting precinct as more fire training is being held at the facility and more firefighting equipment will be located within the fire station.

Whereas, the new Council on Aging facility located at 34625 K.C. Drive, White Castle, LA 70788 is very near the current precinct no. 4 location and the voters will not be inconvenienced by the relocation of polling precinct from 57660 La. Highway 404 White Castle, 70788 to the new Council on Aging facility located at 34625 K. C. Drive, White Castle, LA 70788.

Whereas, it is in the best interest of the Parish to relocate polling precinct number 4 to the new Council on Aging facility located at 34625 K. C. Drive, White Castle, LA 70788 as this facility will provide more convenience to the voters and commissioners and adequate parking facilities.

Whereas, La. R.S. 18:534 provides that once a polling place is established, it may only be changed by a vote of the parish governing authority, and notice of change of location shall be published by the parish governing authority in the official journal of the parish.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Iberville Parish Council as follows:

“That the location of polling precinct number 4, presently located at the White Castle Fire Station No. 3 at 57660 La. Highway 404, White Castle, LA 70788 be relocated to the new Council on Aging facility located at 34625 K.C. Drive, White Castle, LA 70788.

That the relocation of Voting Precinct number 4 from 57660 La. Highway 404, White Castle, LA 70788 to the new Council on Aging facility at 34625 K.C. Drive, White Castle, LA 70788 be effective in accordance with Louisiana law.

That the Iberville Parish Council Clerk forward a copy of this resolution to the U.S. Department of Justice requesting that Council on Aging facility at 34625 K. C. Drive, White Castle, LA 70788 be made the permanent location for polling precinct number 4 in Iberville Parish, Louisiana.

That the Iberville Parish Council Clerk forward a copy of this resolution to the Iberville Parish Clerk of Court, Iberville Parish Registrar of Voters, the Louisiana Secretary of State and Commissioner of Elections.

That the Iberville Parish Council Clerk cause to be published in the official journal, POST-SOUTH, notification of change of polling precinct number 4 in accordance with law, and further that appropriate signs be placed at the old precinct number 4 location directing any voter to the new location of the polling precinct for the first election after approval of the relocation.

The above resolution was duly adopted in regular session this 15th day of September, 2020 by the following vote on roll call;

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Jackson, Smith, Arnold, Bradford, Kelley, Vallet.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Pierce, Markins, Morgan.

The resolution was declared adopted by the Chairman on the 15th day of September, 2020.

RESOLUTION IPC# 2020-010

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE OF LOUISIANA OFF SYSTEM BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Arnold.

WHEREAS, the Code of Federal Regulations as enacted by the United States Congress mandates that all structures defined as bridges located on all public roads shall be inspected, rated for safe

load capacity and posted in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards and that an inventory of these bridges be maintained by each State; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility to inspect, rate and load post those bridges under the authority of Iberville Parish in accordance with those Standards is delegated by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to Iberville Parish.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing authority of Iberville Parish (herein referred to as the Parish) that the Parish in regular meeting assembled does hereby certify to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (herein referred to as the DOTD) that for the period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021:

1. The Parish will perform all interim inspections on all Parish owned or maintained bridges in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards.
2. All bridges owned or maintained by the Parish will be structurally analyzed and rated by the Parish as to the safe load capacity in accordance with AASHTO Manual for Maintenance Inspection of Bridges. The load posting information that has been determined by the LA DOTD for all bridges where the maximum legal load under the operating rating as determined above has been critically reviewed by the Parish. Load posting information has been updated by the Parish to reflect all structural changes, any obsolete structural ratings or any missing structural ratings.
3. All Parish owned or maintained bridges which require load posting or closing shall be load posted or closed in accordance with the table in the DOTD Engineering Directives and Standards Manuals Directive No. 1.1.1.8. All DOTD supplied load posting information concerning a bridge has been critically reviewed by the Parish Engineer prior to load posting.
4. All bridges owned or maintained by the Parish are shown on the attached list in the format specified by the DOTD. Corrections to data supplied to the Parish by the LA DOTD are noted. These stipulations are prerequisites to participation by the Parish in the Off-System Bridge Replacement.

The above resolution was duly adopted in regular session this 15th day of September, 2020, by the following vote on roll call;

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Jackson, Smith, Arnold, Bradford, Kelley, Vallet.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Pierce, Markins, Morgan.

The resolution was declared adopted by the Chairman on the 15th day of September, 2020.

RESOLUTION IPC# 2020-011

RESOLUTION TO DECLARE CERTAIN USED MOVABLE PROPERTY AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION/SALE IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOUISIANA LAW

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Smith, and seconded by Councilman Arnold.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Iberville, through its Parish Council, has been requested to declare certain used movable property which is no longer required as surplus property.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 49:125 provides that a political subdivision is authorized to sell surplus movable property at public auction/sale, and is authorized to employ a qualified licensed auctioneer to handle the said sale or to receive sealed bids for the sale of the surplus property.

WHEREFORE, the office equipment and furnishings, equipment and vehicles described on the list attached hereto is no longer useful or needed and should be declared as surplus movable property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Iberville Parish Council as follows;

“That the used movable property, office equipment and furnishings and equipment and vehicles contained on the attached list are declared surplus movable property and that the items be sold at public auction or by sealed bid in accordance with Louisiana law after due public notice is published in the official journal of the Parish.”

The above resolution was duly adopted in regular session this 15th day of September, 2020, by the following vote on roll call;

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Jackson, Smith, Arnold, Bradford, Kelley, Vallet.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Pierce, Markins, Morgan.

The resolution was declared adopted by the Chairman on the 15th day of September, 2020.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS REPORT

None.

DISCUSSIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Councilman Vallet, and seconded by Councilman Bradford, to adjourn at 6:48 p.m. The motion was unanimously adopted.

/s/ KIRSHA D. BARKER
COUNCIL CLERK

/s/ MATTHEW H. JEWELL
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN