

**IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020**

The Parish Council of Iberville Parish, State of Louisiana, met in Regular Session, in the Council Meeting Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Courthouse Building, 58050 Meriam Street, Plaquemine, Louisiana, on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 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; Steve C. Smith District 5; Raheem T. Pierce, District 6; Ty J. Arnold, District 7; Hunter S. Markins, District 8; Louis R. Kelley, Jr., District 10; Timothy J. Vallet, District 11; Matthew H. Jewell, District 12.

Absent: Leonard Jackson, Sr., District 4; Terry J. Bradford, District 9; Bart B. Morgan, District 13.

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 posted and published in the Plaquemine Post South newspaper on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. A moment of silence was held for Mrs. Kimra Morgan, the late wife of Councilman Bart Morgan, District 13.

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

Councilman Dominique stepped out of the meeting.

ADDENDUM

- A) Resolution to accept ownership of whatever rights the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) may own of the portion of state route LA 1148 (known as Woodlawn Road) from its northwest intersection with state route LA 1 northbound proceeding southeast approximately 0.852 miles to its junction with state route LA 988 (known as Warren Road)

Upon a motion by Councilman Smith, and seconded by Councilman Pierce, it was moved to add the addendum resolution as Item 11-C. 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, Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Kelley, Vallet.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Dominique, Jackson, Bradford, Morgan.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman on October 20, 2020.

Councilman Dominique is now present in the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

- A) Proclamation for 2020 Evangeline Queen- Miss Emma Hargrove
- This agenda item has been postponed until the December meeting due to Miss Hargrove's schedule.
- B) Presentation of IPRD Belleview Master Park Plan by Duplantis Design Group
- Mr. Chad Danos, representing Duplantis Design Group presented a slideshow presentation of the proposed IPRD Belleview Master Park Plan.
  - Councilman Smith asked how many softball fields would be in phase 1, and Mr. Danos answered 2 full softball fields and 1 baseball field. Councilman Smith also stated he doesn't think the centralized pavilion will be large enough.

- Councilman Markins asked if a centralized home plate would allow the parents of multiple aged children playing at the same time the ability to see each child's field instead of looking through the out fields. Mr. Danos stated the traditional 4-wheel pin is outdated and limits how many fields can be utilized at a time.
- Mr. Eric Willis, the new IPRD Director came before the Council to talk about his visit to Vicksburg, Mississippi where he viewed the multipurpose fields in person. He agreed that the functionality of the multipurpose field is important.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Councilman Arnold, and seconded by Councilman Markins, it was moved to wave the reading of the minutes of September 15, 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, Smith, Arnold, Markins, Kelley, Vallet.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: Pierce.

ABSENT: Jackson, Bradford, Morgan.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Ourso reported on the following:

- President Ourso briefly talked about the proposed design of the Belleview Master Park Plan.
- A picture of the aerial view of DOW Road was presented to the Council. Senator Ward called President Ourso to discuss an Economic Development Package proposing a road swap with the municipality's governing authority to switch the ownership of DOW Road from the State to Iberville Parish in exchange for Garner Lane which belongs to the Village of Grosse Tete. The State will only swap the roads with the Parish governing authority, not the municipality. The new owners of the Tiger Truckstop reached out to the State for this proposed swap. President Ourso, Councilman Vallet, and Chairman Jewell held a conference call with DOTD and agreed on switching Garner Lane for the new Tiger Truckstop for DOW Road. The State will put forth \$1 million towards improvements to Garner Lane. The tiger and the camel are gone from the Truckstop.
- The Baton Rouge Food Bank will be in the Parish on Friday, October 23, 2020 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. to distribute 250 boxes.
- President Ourso thanked Council Chairman Jewell for his help with the Covid-19 testing drive in Maringouin.
- The Office of Community Services will be paying light bills for low income residents in White Castle on October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Hurricane Delta went more to the West, and the fire departments are working on a Parish wide damage assessment. The assessment is 90% complete and President Ourso does not believe the Parish will see any FEMA funds since there was very little damage.
- The Civic Center will be open soon. It is still in phase 3 restrictions.
- The 750 gallon water tank at the Ochsner Medical Facility just went into service 3 weeks ago. It takes 18-20 hours a day to take the water in and filter it, the plant is now only running 12 hours a day and is enforced by DHH workers.
- The Parish signed a contract with Tullier Services with the lowest bid of \$850,000 for the bulk head and intake line.
- The Elk's Club property appraised for \$300,000 and they decided they did not want to sell the property for the proposed parks and recreation expansion.
- The Church Street overlay is finished in District 3.
- The Parish is currently working on sewer improvements in the Choctaw trailer park.

- The parish has been picking up tree debris and will be back to its normal schedule soon.
- He talked about what has already been budgeted for 2021 for the proposed maintenance facility for IPRD.
- President Ourso stated AT&T has an outdated system and he proposes that the Council send a letter to the Parish's AT&T representative to appear before the Council to explain what their plan is to fix the service problems in Bayou Pigeon and Bayou Sorrell.
- Ms. Desiree Lemoine, representing Pointe Coupee Electric stated she is here to answer any questions. Councilwoman Easley wanted to reiterate that Pointe Coupee Electric has nothing to do with cell phone service, and thanked Pointe Coupee Electric for their electric services. Councilman Kelley talked about the ruts that are out in an area in his district that has never been addressed and the State refuses to cut the grass due to those ruts. Councilman Kelley stated a fiberglass line has been run through his district and wants an update on this. He also stated he would like Cox Communication to appear as well.
- Councilman Dominique thanked Mr. Mark Migliacio and the Parish workers for their great work on the servitude in his district.
- President Ourso stated around 1997 the City of Plaquemine annexed all of the land out there for the Island Golf Club to be built. The parish built the bridge across the bayou in Plaquemine and he stated it is now time that the road and the bridge be turned over to the City of Plaquemine for their maintenance and upkeep. He wants to release that road to the City of Plaquemine and will contact the Mayor.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director, Randall Dunn stated financial statements have been sent out. Sales taxes continue just under budget, and everything looks good. The proposed budget ordinance is on the agenda tonight. The 2021 budget was presented to the Council at this meeting and he requests that they review it before the public hearing on November 17, 2020.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- A) Ordinance requiring identification for access to the Iberville Parish Courthouse
- This agenda item has been passed on.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### A) Introduction of Ordinances

- 1) Ordinance to adopt the fiscal year 2021 Operating and Capital Improvement Budget and the Amended 2020 Operating and Capital Improvement Budget for the Iberville Parish Council
- 2) Ordinance to acquire fee title to a parcel of land adjacent to Bayou Paul Road for Expansion/Safety of Roadway

Upon a motion by Councilman Kelley, seconded by Councilman Pierce, it was moved that a public hearing be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 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: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Kelley, Vallet.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Bradford, Morgan.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman on October 20, 2020.

B) Trick or Treat Schedule for 2020

Upon a motion by Councilman Vallet, and seconded by Councilman Pierce, it was moved to adopt the 2020 Trick or Treat Schedule for the East & West Banks' Unincorporated Areas of the Parish for Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. 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, Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Kelley, Vallet.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Bradford, Morgan.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman on October 20, 2020.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Resolution Committee met on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6:10 p.m., followed by the roll call with the following Resolution Committee Members only in attendance: Smith, Vallet, Pierce, Kelley, Markins, Dominique.

Absent: Arnold, Jackson, Morgan.

Councilman Arnold is now present.

The following resolutions were read aloud by Mr. Songy:

- A) Resolution to canvas return from Special Election
- B) Resolution to relocate Voting Precinct No. 6A 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
- C) Resolution to accept ownership of whatever rights the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) may own of the portion of state route LA 1148 (known as Woodlawn Road) from its northwest intersection with state route LA 1 northbound proceeding southeast approximately 0.852 miles to its junction with state route LA 988 (known as Warren Road)

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 Markins. The recommendation having been duly submitted to a vote was duly adopted by the following yea and nay votes on roll call by Resolution Committee Members only:

YEAS: Smith, Vallet, Pierce, Kelley, Markins, Dominique.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Arnold, Jackson, Morgan.

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

DURING THE REGULAR MEETING:

**RESOLUTION IPC# 2020-012**

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CANVASSING THE RETURNS AND DECLARING  
THE RESULTS OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION HELD IN THE PARISH OF  
IBERVILLE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2020, TO  
AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL OF A SPECIAL TAX THEREIN**

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Iberville Parish Council (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), that:

SECTION 1. Canvass. This Governing Authority does now proceed in open and public session to examine the official tabulations of votes cast at the special election held in the Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana, on SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2020 (the "Election"), to authorize the renewal of a special tax therein pursuant to the following proposition (the "Proposition"):

**PROPOSITION  
(MILLAGE RENEWAL)**

Shall the Parish of Iberville, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy a special tax of three (3) mills on all property subject to taxation in the Parish (an estimated \$2,100,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2022 and ending with the year 2031, for the purpose of maintaining and operating public buildings in the Parish?

This Governing Authority does further proceed to examine and canvass the returns of the Election thereof.

SECTION 2. Election Results. According to the official certified tabulation of votes cast at said Election, there was a total of **1,754** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** the Proposition and a total of **954** votes cast **AGAINST** the Proposition, resulting in a majority of **800** votes cast **IN FAVOR OF** the Proposition. The Proposition was therefore duly **CARRIED** by a majority of the votes cast by the qualified electors voting at the Election.

SECTION 3. Promulgation of Election Result. The results of said election shall be promulgated by publication in the manner provided by law, after receipt from the Secretary of State's office of the actual costs of the election, as required by Act 205 of the Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana for the year 2019.

SECTION 4. Declaration. The foregoing results of the Election are hereby declared by this Governing Authority and shall be published as required by law.

SECTION 5. Procès Verbal. A *Procès Verbal* of the canvass of the returns of the Election shall be made and a certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who shall record the same in his office; another certified copy thereof shall be forwarded to the Clerk of Court and *Ex-Officio* Recorder of Mortgages in and for the Parish of Iberville, who shall record the same in the Mortgage Records of said Parish; and another copy thereof shall be retained in the archives of this Governing Authority.

The above resolution was duly adopted in regular session this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020 by the following vote on roll call;

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Kelley, Vallet.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Bradford, Morgan.

The resolution was declared adopted by the Chairman on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020.

**RESOLUTION IPC# 2020-013**

**RESOLUTION TO RELOCATE VOTING PRECINCT NO. 6A 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 Pierce.

Whereas voting precinct number 6A 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. 6A 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 6A 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 6A, 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 6A 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 6A 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 6A in accordance with law, and

further that appropriate signs be placed at the old precinct number 6A 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 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020 by the following vote on roll call;

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Kelley, Vallet.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Bradford, Morgan.

The resolution was declared adopted by the Chairman on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020.

#### **RESOLUTION IPC# 2020-014**

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT OWNERSHIP OF WHATEVER RIGHTS THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT (DOTD) MAY OWN OF THE PORTION OF STATE ROUTE LA 1148 (KNOWN AS WOODLAWN ROAD) FROM ITS NORTHWEST INTERSECTION WITH STATE ROUTE LA 1 NORTHBOUND PROCEEDING SOUTHEAST APPROXIMATELY 0.852 MILES TO ITS JUNCTION WITH STATE ROUTE LA 988 (KNOWN AS WARREN ROAD)**

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

WHEREAS, The Iberville Parish Council agrees to accept ownership of whatever rights the State of Louisiana, through the Department of Transportation and Development ("DOTD" or "Department"), may own, with the exception of any and all mineral rights, in and to the following described property and agrees to accept all future rights, obligations and liabilities, including, but not limited to, all future operation, maintenance, and repairs associated therewith, for its operation and maintenance as a parish road, subject to the conditions stated herein below:

The portion of state route LA 1148 (known as Woodlawn Road) from its northwest intersection with state route LA 1 northbound proceeding southeast approximately 0.852 miles to its junction with state route LA 988 (known as Warren Road).

The Iberville Parish Council agrees to accept ownership of whatever rights the Department may own in and to the aforesaid described property at the proper time and under the conditions specified herein below:

CONDITION I: Provide repairs to include a roadway surface treatment for the portion of state route LA 1148 (known as Woodlawn Road) to be transferred to Iberville Parish.

CONDITION II: Provide a total of \$285,064 in road transfer credit to be applied to the repairs in Condition III herein below, representing \$400,803 in road transfer credit for the portion of the state route LA 1148 (known as Woodlawn Road) to be transferred to Iberville Parish in very good condition, less \$115,739 in road transfer credit for the portion of the future state route known as Garner Lane in the Village of Grosse Tete to be transferred to DOTD in very good condition.

(a) The amount of Road Transfer credit to be provided under this condition is calculated pursuant to a present worth 40-year maintenance valuation whereby DOTD determines the cost of maintaining the road in the state highway system for 40 years from the present date.

CONDITION III: Provide repairs to the future state route known as Garner Lane in the Village of Grosse Tete from its junction with state route LA 77 (known as Bayou Road) proceeding southwest approximately 0.265 miles to a point at or near 76855 Garner Lane located approximately 0.236 miles northeast of its junction with the local road known as Locust Street to be transferred to the State of Louisiana in accordance with the DOTD guidelines for the functional classification, not to exceed the road transfer credit provided

in Condition II herein above.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Iberville Parish Council shall accept ownership of whatever rights the Department may own in and to the aforesaid described property as a binding agreement between the Department and the Iberville Parish Council, provided the Department shall comply with the relevant condition(s) stated herein. Portions of the aforesaid described property may be transferred to the Iberville Parish Council in its current condition prior to satisfaction of the relevant condition(s) stated herein, if mutually agreed in writing to be in the best interest of the parties. Such transfer shall not relieve DOTD of responsibility to comply with the relevant condition(s) stated herein above.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iberville Parish Council authorizes the presiding President of Iberville Parish to execute an Intergovernmental Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Department and Iberville Parish, and any amendments or necessary modifications thereto, memorializing the agreement between the parties relative to the above-stated property transfers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iberville Parish Council authorizes the presiding President of Iberville Parish to execute any and all documents necessary to affect the transfer of the aforesaid described property at the proper time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iberville Parish Council hereby represents that it has received approval from a majority of the state legislative delegation from Iberville Parish of the actions contemplated herein.

The above resolution was duly adopted in regular session this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020 by the following vote on roll call;

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Kelley, Vallet.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Bradford, Morgan.

The resolution was declared adopted by the Chairman on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020.

#### BOARDS & COMMISSIONS REPORT

None.

#### DISCUSSIONS

None.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Councilman Pierce, and seconded by the Council, to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. The motion was unanimously adopted.

/s/ KIRSHA D. BARKER  
COUNCIL CLERK

/s/ MATTHEW H. JEWELL  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN