

**IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023
PROPOSED ORDINANCE**

The Parish Council of Iberville Parish, State of Louisiana, held a Public Hearing in the Council Meeting Room, 58050 Meriam Street, Plaquemine, Louisiana, on the 19th day of September, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. pursuant to a Notice of Public Hearing published on the 24th day of August, 2023 in The Advocate and posted on the Iberville Parish website.

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; Terry J. Bradford, District 9; Louis R. Kelley, Jr., District 10; Matthew H. Jewell, District 12; Bart B. Morgan, District 13.

Absent: Jackson, Vallet.

Chief Administrative Officer- Edward Songy, were in attendance.


Mr. Songy read the following ordinance in entirety.

ORDINANCE 1

ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT DONATION OF IMMOVABLE
PROPERTY FROM ESTATE OF J. GERALD DUPONT
IDENTIFIED AS LOT NUMBER 84 OF MILL SITE
SUBDIVISION, PLAQUEMINE, LOUISIANA

The floor was opened to comments and questions. There was no opposition to this ordinance from the public.

There being no further business to be conducted, the hearing was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.


/s/ MACY WILLIAMSON
COUNCIL CLERK


/s/ MATTHEW H. JEWELL
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

**IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023**

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 19th day of September, 2023.

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; Terry J. Bradford, District 9; Louis R. Kelley, Jr., District 10; Matthew H. Jewell, District 12; Bart B. Morgan, District 13.

Absent: Jackson, Vallet.

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

A quorum was present and due notice had been posted and published in The Advocate newspaper on the 14th day of September, 2023. 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.

ADDENDUM

A) Chris Daigle – Announcing Candidacy for Parish President

Upon a motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Allen, it was moved that the addendum item will be added to the agenda under Presentations and Appearances. 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, Bradford, Kelley, Morgan.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Vallet.

PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

A) Chris Daigle – Announcing Candidacy for Parish President

- Chris Daigle came before the council and he stated that he is a graduate of White Castle High School and Nicholls State University. He has been married for 18 years and he has four children.
- He owns Daigle's Supermarket in White Castle and Déjà vu Daiquiris in Plaquemine. He currently serves on the Iberville Parish School Board. He stated that he is involved in many organizations throughout the parish.
- He stated that he believes it time for change in Iberville and he wants to reinstate term limits for the Parish President. He wants to bring more affordable housing to the parish. he asked the council for their support and thanked them.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Councilman Pierce, seconded by Councilman Arnold, it was moved to wave the reading of the minutes of August 15, 2023 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, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Bradford, Kelley, Morgan.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Vallet.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Ourso reported on the following:

- He stated that the Pelican Waste contract is at \$19 per week, per household and this is line with what other parishes are paying for garbage pickup. He asked for the council's approval to move forward with signing a new contract with Pelican Waste.
- He stated that next Monday on September 25, there will be a Capital Area Bridge Meeting, the meeting will be hosted in Iberville. He encouraged the council to attend the meeting.
- He thanked the council for attending the Solar Farm Community Meeting. He contacted the general manager from NextEra and stated that he was looking for a notice of intent. Councilman Bradford asked if NextEra was looking at any other sites for a solar farm. President Ourso stated they were not looking at any other sites in Iberville.

- The work being done by DOTD on the train bridge in Plaquemine has been pushed back to October 20, 2023.
- The White Castle canal drainage project has been pushed back another two weeks. There is push back from the pipeline companies on what can go over the pipelines.
- Annual Swamp Fest is October 7 in Grosse Tete and he said he was looking forward to seeing everyone out there.
- Councilman Arnold asked if there has been any contact with the City of Plaquemine Officials regarding the old courthouse and its repairs. President Ourso stated he wants to go into executive session to discuss.
- Councilman Dominique thanked President Ourso for the road project in Bayou Goula.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion by Councilman Kelley at 6:48 p.m., seconded by Councilman Pierce it was moved to go into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. The motion having been duly submitted to a vote was duly adopted by the following yeas and nays on roll call:

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Vallet.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman.

Upon a motion by Councilman Smith at 7:05 p.m., seconded by Councilman Kelley it was moved to go out of Executive Session. The motion having been duly submitted to a vote was duly adopted by the following yeas and nays on roll call:

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Vallet.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director, Randall Dunn stated that since next year is a reassessment year for property taxes some millages will have to be rolled back. The budget ordinance will be introduced next month and set for public hearing for November. He stated that for 22 consecutive years the Iberville Parish Council finance department has been awarded a certificate for efficient and balanced budget. Iberville is one of 10 parishes that receives this award and the Parish Council is the only public office in the parish that receives this award.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE IPC# 011 - 23

ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT DONATION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY FROM ESTATE OF J. GERALD DUPONT IDENTIFIED AS LOT NUMBER 84 OF MILL SITE SUBDIVISION, PLAQUEMINE, LOUISIANA

WHEREAS, the Estate of J. Gerald Dupont has expressed its intention to donate a parcel of immovable property identified as Lot Number 84 of Mill Site Subdivision located in Plaquemine, Louisiana to the Iberville Parish Council. Said parcel of land is unimproved.

WHEREAS, the parcel of land is described as follows: Lot Number 84 of Mill Site Subdivision located in Plaquemine, Louisiana as identified on map entitled "SURVEY OF LOT 84 OF MILL

SITE SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 12 EAST, CITY OF PLAQUEMINE, IBERVILLE PARISH, LOUISIANA” dated September 12, 2023, prepared by Thomas C. David, Jr., Registered Land Surveyor, having said dimensions and servitudes as shown on said plat map.” A copy of said survey plat is attached to this ordinance and incorporated by reference.

WHEREAS, Iberville Parish Home Rule Charter, Section 2-11(A)(12) provides that an ordinance shall be required to acquire real property on behalf of the Iberville Parish Council.

WHEREAS, the said Lot Number 84 of Mill Site Subdivision is unimproved and may be of future use to the Iberville Parish Council.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Iberville Parish Council to accept the donation of property from the Estate of J. Gerald Dupont to be utilized for a public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCL AS FOLLOWS:

“That J. Mitchell Ourso, Jr., Parish President, be and is hereby authorized to accept and sign any and all documentation required to accept the donation of immovable property, namely Lot No. 84 of Mill Site Subdivision in Plaquemine, Louisiana in accordance with Louisiana law.”

The foregoing ordinance which was previously introduced at the meeting of the Iberville Parish Council on August 15, 2023 and a summary thereof having been published in the official journal on August 21, 2023, the public hearing on this ordinance held on the 19th day of September, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Meeting Room, 58050 Meriam Street, Plaquemine, Louisiana, was brought up for final passage with a motion by Councilman Markins, and seconded by Councilman Bradford, having been duly submitted to a vote, the ordinance was duly adopted by the following yea and nay vote on roll call:

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Vallet.

The ordinance was declared adopted by the Chairman on the 19th day of September, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

A) Introduction of Ordinances

1. Ordinance to declare the following property to be surplus and to sell to neighboring property owner pursuant to the terms of ordinance # 002-13 (Kenneth Johnson, SR.; parcel #8211349508)

Upon a motion by Councilman Arnold, seconded by Councilman Pierce, it was moved that a public hearing be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. on the introduced ordinances.

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, Bradford, Kelley, Morgan.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Vallet.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman on September 19, 2023.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Resolution Committee met on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 6:15 p.m., followed by the roll call with the following Resolution Committee Members only in attendance: Smith, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Kelley, Morgan, and Dominique.

Absent: Vallet, Jackson.

The following resolution was read aloud by Mr. Songy:

- A) Resolution adopting the Annual Certification of Compliance with the State of Louisiana Off System Bridge Replacement Program
- B) Resolution to support the “Upper Terrebonne Basin Pump Station” – Project No. 1151 of the Louisiana watershed initiative – round 2 funding
- C) Resolution certificate of Iberville Parish evidencing public approval of bonds pursuant to section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended

Councilman Kelley made a recommendation to forward the resolutions to the regular meeting, seconded by Councilman Pierce. 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, Pierce, Arnold, Markins, Kelley, Morgan, Dominique.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Vallet, Jackson.

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

During the Regular Meeting:

RESOLUTION IPC# 2023- 018

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

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Kelley, and seconded by Councilman Pierce.

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, 2023 through September 30, 2024:

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 foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote by roll call was adopted in regular session this 19th day of September, 2023 by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Vallet.

The resolution was declared adopted by the Chairman on September 19, 2023.

RESOLUTION IPC# 2023-019

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE “UPPER TERREBONNE BASIN PUMP STATION” – PROJECT NO. 1151 OF THE LOUISIANA WATERSHED INITIATIVE – ROUND 2 FUNDING

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Kelley and seconded by Councilman Pierce.

WHEREAS, the “Louisiana Watershed Initiative” was created under the *Louisiana Office of Community Development* as an Executive Order by the Governor as a result of the \$ 1.2 Billion funding secured by the US Congress after the 2016 Great Flood to reduce flood risks;

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Watershed Initiative - Round 2 Funding is proposing the allocation of \$250 Million for statewide flood risk reduction projects to be spread across the nine (9) Watershed Regions;

WHEREAS, the area of Iberville Parish located between the Mississippi River Levee and the Atchafalaya Basin Levee referred to as the Upper Terrebonne Basin, and identified by the Louisiana Watershed Initiative as Watershed “Region 6 “, is negatively impacted by repeated regional flooding problems;

WHEREAS, the upper portion of Watershed Region 6 is occupied by four (4) Parishes: Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, Iberville, and Assumption Parishes (listed from north to south);

WHEREAS, the regional flooding problems in the upper portion of the Watershed Region 6 happens because the water cannot adequately drain out of the region for multiple reasons, including: 1) The bottlenecking of all the floodwater from the upper region at one location in Lower Grand River within the vicinity of the “Bayou Sorrel Locks”, 2) There is little to no drainage relief further downstream due to extreme channel siltation and low land elevations, and 3) The lower portion of region near “Bayou Boeuf” in Morgan City where all the floodwater must drain out of the region experiences backwater flooding, heavy tidal influences, and storm surges;

WHEREAS, a real solution to the regional flood problems in Louisiana Watershed Region 6 is desperately needed to protect Iberville Parish and the other Parishes from repeated flooding and unforeseen damages that threatens life and property, particularly in the “disadvantaged” and “low to moderate income” communities known to predominately reside in this part of Watershed Region 6;

WHEREAS, a project to install a High-Volume Floodwater Pump Station located in Iberville Parish within the vicinity of the Bayou Sorrel Locks where all the floodwater bottlenecks to pump the floodwater over the levee into the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System is a real

solution to not only provide flood relief to Iberville Parish, but also provide flood relief to the other parishes located both upstream and downstream of the floodwater pump station location;

WHEREAS, a regional flood project of this magnitude will be costly, a portion of the funding from the Louisiana Watershed Initiative - Round 2 could be used to cover the costs needed for project planning, design, specifications, and land servitude in order to make this a “shovel ready” project. Then, the four (4) benefitted parishes (Iberville, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, and Assumption Parishes) could work together to secure the additional funds needed to construct the project;

WHEREAS, *Letters of Support* for Project No. 1151, “Upper Terrebonne Basin Pump Station” have been provided by:

Iberville Parish President - J. Mitchell Ourso, Jr.,
Pointe Coupee Parish President - Major Thibaut,
West Baton Rouge Parish President - Riley Berthelot, Jr.,
Iberville Parish Councilman – Louis “Pete” Kelley,
Iberville Parish Councilwoman - Chasity Berthelot Easley,
State Representative – Chad Brown,
State Senator - Caleb Kleinpeter,
US Congressman - Garret Graves;

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Watershed Region 6 Steering Committee Members unanimously rated the Project No. 1151, “Upper Terrebonne Basin Pump Station” the highest priority in the region for Round 2 funding;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS: The Iberville Parish Council respectfully request the State of Louisiana Watershed Council Members who approves which projects within the Louisiana Watershed Regions are selected to receive Round 2 Funding for flood risk reduction, approve the Watershed Region 6 Project No. 1151, “Upper Terrebonne Basin Pump Station” submitted by the Parish of Iberville.

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote by roll call was adopted in regular session this 19th day of September, 2023 by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Vallet.

The resolution was declared adopted by the Chairman on September 19, 2023.

RESOLUTION IPC# 2023-020

RESOLUTION CERTIFICATE OF IBERVILLE PARISH EVIDENCING PUBLIC APPROVAL OF BONDS PURSUANT TO SECTION 147(f) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Kelley and seconded by Councilman Pierce.

WHEREAS, the Capital Area Finance Authority (the “**Authority**”), a public trust created pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 2-A of Title 9 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (R.S. 9:2341-9:2347, inclusive) (the “**Act**”) has, by resolution dated September 19, 2023, in accordance with the requirements of the Act, and the Rules and Regulations of the Louisiana State Bond Commission (the “**Commission**”), duly authorized the issuance of not exceeding of Capital Area Finance Authority Revenue Bonds in one or more series (the “**Bonds**”) to finance loans to first-time homebuyers within the jurisdictional parishes of the Authority and such other governmental units (the “**Participating Jurisdictions**”) whose governing authority authorized and directed the execution of a cooperative endeavor agreement (a “**CEA**”) with the Authority under the provisions of the Act and other applicable constitutional and statutory authorities; and

WHEREAS, the Commission, on August 17, 2023, duly authorized the issuance and sale of the Bonds in accordance with law and the Commission's Rules and Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Bonds are classified as exempt facility bonds under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “**Code**”) and the provisions of Section 147(f)(2)(A), (B) and (E) of the Code require that issuance of the Bonds be approved by the “applicable elected representative” of the governmental unit which issues such bonds or on whose behalf such bonds are issued and by the “applicable elected representative” of such other Participating Jurisdictions that have executed a CEA with the Authority under the provisions of the Act; and

WHEREAS, Iberville Parish (the “**Governmental Unit**”) has executed a CEA with the Authority to permit the financing of loans to first-time homebuyers within geographic area of the Governmental Unit; and

WHEREAS, the applicable elected representative (the “**Approving Representative**”) of the Governmental Unit for purposes of approving the Bonds is the **J. Mitchell Ourso**/ Parish President; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with the requirements of the Code, Notice of Public Hearing (attached as **Exhibit “A”** hereto), was published in (i) The Advocate, Baton Rouge, Louisiana on **September 8, 2023**, (ii) The Daily Advertiser, Lafayette, Louisiana on **September 8, 2023**, (iii) the Houma Courier, Houma, Louisiana on **September 8, 2023**, (iv) the Lake Charles American Press, Lake Charles, Louisiana on **September 8, 2023**, (v) The News Star, Monroe **September 8, 2023**, Louisiana on **September 8, 2023**, (vi) the Times-Picayune, New Orleans, Louisiana on **September 8, 2023**, (vii) The Times, Shreveport, Louisiana on **September 8, 2023**, and (viii) The Town Talk, Alexandria, Louisiana on **September 8, 2023**, and

WHEREAS, in compliance with the requirements of the Code, the public hearing with respect to the issuance of said Bonds was held on **September 18, 2023**, at 1:00 p.m., Louisiana Time, at 601 St. Ferdinand Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, and simultaneously held by teleconference with a toll-free number 1-888-475-4499 and guest access code 994-030-3250 in accordance with Rev. Proc. 2022-20 after due notice thereof was published in the official journal of the Authority and in the aforementioned publications sufficient to inform the public within the geographic area of the Participating Jurisdictions of the subject, date and place of said public hearing; and

WHEREAS, no objections were raised by any person present at the said hearing or by any person participating by teleconference relative to the issuance of the Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned, Approving Representative of the Participating Jurisdiction, desires to approve the issuance of the Bonds for the purposes of the Code;

NOW, THEREFORE, the undersigned does hereby certify that the chief elected executive officer/governing authority of the Participating Jurisdiction, hereby approves and confirms the issuance of the Bonds. The Authority, and its officers, are authorized to cause this certificate to be filed of record in the transcript of proceedings for the Bonds and to file a copy thereof with any State or Federal agency, board or commission as may be required by any applicable State or Federal laws, rules or regulations.

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote by roll call was adopted in regular session this 19th day of September, 2023 by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Jackson, Vallet.

The resolution was declared adopted by the Chairman on September 19, 2023.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS REPORT

None.

DISCUSSIONS


None.

ANNOUNCEMENT

A) Notice to the Public- The online deadline to register to vote or update your voter registration information is Saturday, September 23, 2023. Visit GEAUXVOTE.COM for more information. The early voting for the October 14, 2023 Election begins Saturday, September 30, 2023 through Saturday, October 7, 2023 excluding Sunday. The early voting hours are 8:30 am- 6:00 pm. Citizens who want to vote early may do so in person at the Iberville Parish Registrar of Voters Office located on the 2nd floor of the Iberville Parish Courthouse, 58050 Meriam Street, Plaquemine, LA 70764.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Councilman Markins, and seconded by Councilwoman Easley, to adjourn at 7:13 p.m. The motion was unanimously adopted.


/s/ MACY WILLIAMSON
COUNCIL CLERK


/s/ MATTHEW H. JEWELL
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

