# IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES PUBLIC HEARING, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. pursuant to a Notice of Public Hearing published on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024 in The Advocate and posted on the Iberville Parish website.

The Council Chairman, Matthew H. Jewell, called the meeting to order at 6:00 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; Freddie Frazier, Sr., District 4; Steve C. Smith, District 5; Raheem T. Pierce, District 6; Nadia Jenkins, District 7; Hunter S. Markins, District 8; Chasity Martinez, District 10; Charles Dardenne, District 11; Matthew H. Jewell, District 12; Bart B. Morgan, District 13.

Absent: Bradford.

Councilman Bradford arrived after roll call.

Chief Administrative Officer- Dwayne Boudreaux, Chief Operating Officer- Randall Dunn, and Legal Counsel- Scott Stassi were also in attendance.

Mr. Boudreaux read the following ordinance in entirety.

ORDINANCE 1 ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 3 OF IPC ORDINANCE

<u>002-13 TO ALLOW ADJUDICATED PROPERTIES TO BE</u> SOLD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER WITHOUT SETTING A

MINIMUM BID

ORDINANCE 2 ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING AN AD VALOREM TAX

EXEMPTION FOR FIRST RESPONDERS WHO OWN AND

OCCUPY HOMES IN IBERVILLE PARISH

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 /s/ MATTHEW H. JEWELL

COUNCIL CLERK

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

# IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

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 19<sup>th</sup> 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; Freddie Frazier, Sr., District 4; Steve C. Smith, District 5; Raheem T. Pierce, District 6; Nadia Jenkins, District 7; Hunter S. Markins, District 8; Terry J. Bradford, District 9; Chasity Martinez, District 10; Charles Dardenne, District 11; Matthew H. Jewell, District 12; Bart B. Morgan, District 13.

#### Absent:

Parish President- Chris Daigle, Chief Administrative Officer- Dwayne Boudreaux, Chief Operating Officer- Randall Dunn, and Legal Counsel- Scott Stassi were also in attendance.

A quorum was present and due notice had been posted and published in The Advocate newspaper on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024. 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) Announcing Candidacy for Mayor of City of Plaquemine – Timmy Martinez

Upon a motion by Councilman Pierce, seconded by Councilman Bradford, 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, Frazier, Smith, Pierce, Jenkins, Markins, Bradford, Martinez, Dardenne, Morgan.

NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

## PRESENTATIONS AND APPEARANCES

- A) Announcing Candidacy for Mayor of City of Plaquemine Timmy Martinez
  - Timmy Martinez came before the council to announce his candidacy for Mayor for the City of Plaquemine. He stated that he is the only one in the race with city government experience. He has the experience and knowledge and will be ready to get started as soon as he takes office. He stated that when he is elected that he will work with Council in any way. He thanked the Council for their time.
- B) Lisa Jordan East Grand Lake Project Amicus Brief
  - Lisa Jordan came before the council and stated she is representing a group that have filed a lawsuit against the Army Corps of Engineers and the Coastal Protection Restoration Authority for the East Grand Lake Project. She stated that this project will be a destruction to the environment in the East Grand Lake area. It will bring in tons of sediment and the spillway will not be able to serve its purpose. The level of sediment will destroy the water quality and the ability for people to access the area.
  - Councilwoman Martinez asked that the Council support doing an Amicus Brief because this project will be detrimental to her and Councilwoman Easley's districts.

Councilwoman Martinez made a motion for the Council to proceed with the Amicus Brief. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Easley. 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, Frazier, Smith, Pierce, Jenkins, Markins, Bradford, Martinez, Dardenne, Morgan.

NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Councilman Bradford, seconded by Councilman Markins, it was moved to wave the reading of the minutes of August 20, 2024 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, Frazier, Smith, Pierce, Jenkins, Markins, Bradford, Martinez, Dardenne, Morgan.

NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman.

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Daigle reported on the following:

- He recognized Mr. Arthur Rosemand for 15 years of service to Iberville Parish.
- The Parish held their first annual Family Day and it was a huge success, he thanked all the vendors that donated their time to make the event successful.
- He stated that Hurricane Francine debris is currently being picked up around the Parish. He stated that all departments were prepared and all sandbags have been picked up from the satellite locations.
- The reorganizational chart ordinance that is being introduced tonight was completed by Emergent Method and they will be at the Public Hearing next month to go over their findings. Emergent Method will also be at the October meeting to discus the salary structure.
- The Grosse Tete bridge will reopen for vehicle travel next week. The work on the bridge will continue but it is safe for vehicle traffic and the bridge will have a schedule on times that it will open. The Pedestrian ferry will close on Monday and a group will be out at the ferry site cooking for the workers and community to show their appreciation.
- The Swamp Expo is expected to be rescheduled to April of 2025 due to renovations.
- There are a bunch of projects that in the works for Iberville Parish, Bayou Pigeon Boat ramp project will begin in October. Road repair improvements will begin in October as well.
- The Parish Waterway Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, October 5, 2024.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Finance Director, Randall Dunn stated that the council were sent their budget to actual financial statements. The budget ordinance will be introduced next month and set for public hearing for November and the Council will hold a special budget hearing.

#### **IPC ORDINANCE # 007-24**

# ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 3 OF IPC ORDINANCE 002-13 TO ALLOW ADJUDICATED PROPERTIES TO BE SOLD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER WITHOUT SETTING A MINIMUM BID

**WHEREAS** the Parish of Iberville has a tax interest in various properties located in the Parish of Iberville which have been adjudicated for non-payment of property taxes.

**WHEREAS** Ordinance 002-13 entitled "Ordinance to Establish the Iberville Parish Adjudicated Properties Program to Regulate Tax Adjudicated Properties in the Parish of Iberville" was adopted on April 16, 2013, and approved by former Parish President J. Mitchell Ourso, Jr., on April 18, 2013.

**WHEREAS** section 3 of Ordinance 002-13 currently states the following:

"Unless otherwise provided by this Ordinance, the Iberville Parish Council elects to set a dollar amount as a minimum bid for the public sale of adjudicated property, which shall be at least the total amount of statutory impositions, governmental liens, and costs of sale, including but not limited to the authorized expenses listed in Section 4 below. The Council however, reserves the right to require an appraisal of adjudicated property to be sold at public sale. If the Council elects to use the appraised value to establish a bidding floor instead of setting a dollar amount minimum bid as allowed by this Section, the Council shall appoint a licensed appraiser to appraise and value the property. The minimum bid at the first public sale shall be at least two thirds of the appraised value of the property. If the property fails to sell at the first public sale, the minimum bid at the second sale shall at least be one-third the appraised value of the property."

**WHEREAS** La R.S. 47:2202 now provides that alternatively, the governing authority of each political subdivision may elect to sell the adjudicated property at public sale to the highest bidder without setting a minimum bid or requiring an appraisal.

**WHEREAS** there is a need to return to commerce tax adjudicated properties which have failed to sell at previous public sales for the total amount of statutory impositions, governmental liens, and costs of sale or for two thirds of the appraised value of the property.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE IBERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL that Section 3 of Ordinance 002-13 is hereby amended to include the option to sell adjudicated property at a public sale to the highest bidder without setting a minimum bid or for at least two thirds of the appraised value of the property and shall now state the following:

"Unless otherwise provided by this Ordinance, the Iberville Parish Council elects to set a dollar amount as a minimum bid for the public sale of adjudicated property, which shall be at least the total amount of statutory impositions, governmental liens, and costs of sale, including but not limited to the authorized expenses listed in Section 4 below. The Council however, reserves the right to require an appraisal of adjudicated property to be sold at public sale. If the Council elects to use the appraised value to establish a bidding floor instead of setting a dollar amount minimum bid as allowed by this Section, the Council shall appoint a licensed appraiser to appraise and value the property. The minimum bid at the first public sale shall be at least two thirds of the appraised value of the property. If the property fails to sell at the first public sale, the minimum bid at the second sale shall at least be one-third the appraised value of the property.

Alternatively, the Council *may* elect to sell the adjudicated property at public sale to the highest bidder without setting a minimum bid or requiring an appraisal. The Iberville Parish Council *may* elect to sell adjudicated properties at public sale to the highest bidder without setting a minimum bid or for at least two thirds of the appraised value of the property after the property has failed to sell at a previous public sale.

The Parish Administrator shall in accordance with the terms of Ordinance #002-13 set the minimum bid price or designate that the property shall be sold to the highest bidder without setting a minimum bid, set the date of the public sale, authorize the necessary pre-

sale expenditures through a third party administrator regarding title work, legal notices, advertisements and affidavits, designate an auctioneer and ensure that all acts of sale are acceptable in form and substance."

The foregoing ordinance which was previously introduced at the meeting of the Iberville Parish Council on August 20, 2024 and a copy thereof having been published in the official journal on August 29, 2024, the public hearing on this ordinance held on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024, 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 Councilwoman Allen, and seconded by Councilwoman Jenkins, 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, Frazier, Smith, Pierce, Jenkins, Markins, Bradford, Martinez, Dardenne, Morgan.

NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

The ordinance was declared adopted by the Chairman on the 17th day of September, 2024.

#### **IPC ORDINANCE # 008-24**

# ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING AN AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION FOR FIRST RESPONDERS WHO OWN AND OCCUPY HOMES IN IBERVILLE PARISH

**WHEREAS** first responders are often the first to arrive to the scene of an emergency or disaster. The provide services essential to the response and community; and

WHEREAS Louisiana voters have approved an amendment to the Louisiana Constitution allowing for qualified first responders, who occupy and own a home subject to the standard of homestead exemption, to receive an additional two-thousand five-hundred dollars of assessed valuation of property in homestead exemption, contingent upon local government approval; and

**WHEREAS** the Iberville Parish Council wishes to take appropriate action to allow Iberville Parish first responders to receive the additional homestead exemption outlined in Act No. 179 of the 2023 Louisiana Regular Session.

**NOW, THERFORE, IT BE ORDAINED** by the Iberville Parish Council in due, legal and regular session convened, that an additional two-thousand-five hundred dollars of assessed valuation of property in homestead exemption is to be available to first responders in Iberville Parish. The first responder as defined by Act No. 179 of the 2023 Louisiana Regular Session must be employed with an Iberville Parish Agency to be eligible for the additional two-thousand five-hundred-dollar exemption.

- **BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that the exemption is available in accordance with all provisions outlined in the Louisiana Constitution.
- **BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.
- **BE** IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall become effective after publication in the official journal and is applicable for the 2025 property tax assessments.
- **BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** that all ordinance or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The foregoing ordinance which was previously introduced at the meeting of the Iberville Parish Council on August 20, 2024 and a copy thereof having been published in the official journal on August 29, 2024, the public hearing on this ordinance held on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024, 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 Pierce, and seconded by Councilman

Frazier, 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, Frazier, Smith, Pierce, Jenkins, Markins, Bradford, Martinez, Dardenne, Morgan.

NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

The ordinance was declared adopted by the Chairman on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A) Introduction of Ordinances
  - 1. Ordinance to provide for placement of recreational vehicles in unincorporated areas of Iberville parish

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Martinez, seconded by Councilman Dardenne, it was moved that a public hearing be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 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, Frazier, Smith, Pierce, Jenkins, Bradford, Martinez, Dardenne, Morgan.

NAYS: Markins. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman on September 17, 2024.

2. Ordinance by Iberville Parish President Chris Daigle to the Council Chair and Council seeking Administrative Reorganization. (The proposed reorganization plan has been delivered to Council Chair and members of the Parish Council.) This Administrative Reorganization Plan is specifically authorized by the Iberville Home Rule Charter adopted January 18, 1997, effective October 31, 1997, as per Sections 4-11 & 4-12 A, B, & C

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Martinez, seconded by Councilman Dardenne, it was moved that a public hearing be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 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, Frazier, Smith, Pierce, Jenkins, Markins, Bradford, Martinez, Dardenne, Morgan.

NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

The motion was declared adopted by the Chairman on September 17, 2024.

# RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Resolution Committee met on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 6:15 p.m., followed by the roll call with the following Resolution Committee Members only in attendance: Smith, Dardenne, Pierce, Jenkins, Markins, Martinez, Frazier, Morgan, Dominique.

Absent: None.

The following resolution was read aloud by Mr. Dunn:

A) Resolution adopting the Annual Certification of Compliance with the State of Louisiana Off System Bridge Replacement Program

Councilman Smith made a recommendation to forward the resolutions to the regular meeting, seconded by Councilman Frazier. 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, Dardenne, Pierce, Jenkins, Markins, Martinez, Frazier, Morgan, Dominique.

NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

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

During the Regular Meeting:

#### **RESOLUTION IPC# 2024-0**

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

The fol	lowing resol	lution was	introduced	by Councilman	, and seconded	Эy
Councilman _	•					

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, 2024 through September 30, 2025:

- 1. The Parish will perform all interim inspections on all parish-owned or maintained bridges in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards and Specifications for the National Bridge Inventory;
- 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 the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Manual for Bridge Evaluation. The load posting information that has been determined by DOTD for all bridges where the maximum legal load under Louisiana State Law exceeds the load permitted under the operating rating as determined above will be critically reviewed by the Parish. Load posting information will be 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 will be load posted or closed in accordance with the table in the DOTD Load Rating Directives. All DOTD supplied load posting information concerning a bridge has been critically reviewed by the Parish Engineer prior to load posting; and
- 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 DOTD are noted.

5. All bridges owned and maintained by the Parish are accessible to DOTD for all routine bridge inspections. Parish will clear vegetation as required upon DOTD request.

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote by roll call was adopted in regular session this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024 by the following vote:

YEAS: Allen, Easley, Dominique, Frazier, Smith, Pierce, Jenkins, Markins, Bradford, Martinez, Dardenne, Morgan.

NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

The resolution was declared adopted by the Chairman on September 17, 2024.

### **BOARDS & COMMISSIONS REPORT**

None.

### **DISCUSSIONS**

None.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

A) Notice to the Public- The last day to register to vote for the November 5, 2024 election in person or by mail is October 7, 2024. The Geaux Vote online electronic registration deadline is October 15, 2024. Visit GEAUXVOTE.COM for more information. Early voting for the November 5, 2024 Election begins Friday, October 18, 2024 through Tuesday, October 29, 2024, excluding Sundays. 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 Councilwoman Jenkins, and seconded by Councilman Frazier, to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. The motion was unanimously adopted.

/s/ MACY WILLIAMSON COUNCIL CLERK /s/ MATTHEW H. JEWELL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN