

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND THE NEW IBERIA CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NEW IBERIA, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023, AT 5:30 P.M.**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of New Iberia, State of Louisiana, met in public session at City Hall, 457 East Main Street, New Iberia, Louisiana, on March 7, 2023, at Five-Thirty (5:30) p.m., (Central Standard Time). Present were the Mayor, Freddie DeCourt, as well as the following members of the New Iberia City Council: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid and Dustin Suire. Also in attendance, Jeff Simon, City Attorney and Lanie Kerlegon, City Clerk.

The City Council for the City of New Iberia, State of Louisiana, was duly convened as the governing authority for the City of New Iberia, State of Louisiana, by the Honorable Mayor, who then stated that the Governing Authority was ready for the transaction of business. Council member Marlon Lewis led the prayer and pledge.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

- a. Acceptance of the minutes of February 22, 2023, which will publish on March 8, 2023.

Motion by Marlon Lewis, and seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin:

**YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin,
Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire**
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

3. PERSONS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL:

- a. Zack Mitchell was not present to discuss the You Are Wonderful Campaign

4. SPECIAL BUSINESS:

- a. At this time, the New Iberia City Council discussed and considered the veto of Ordinance No. 2022-26, which is an Ordinance to amend and extend, for a period of twenty-five (25) years, until December 6, 2050, Ordinance No. 2000-580 (adopted November 8, 2000), which ordinance granted a franchise to Cleco Power LLC (formerly Cleco Utility Group, Inc.), its successors and assigns, for the construction, maintenance, and operation of electric utilities, electric generating facilities and/or transmission and distribution systems in, through and across the city of New Iberia, Louisiana ("municipality"), and for the use of the streets, alleys, and public places of said municipality, in connection therewith, for the generation, transmission, distribution, and sale of electric current, energy, and/or power, and to modify the terms of said franchise granted in Ordinance No. 2000-580 as hereinafter set forth

No action was taken on this item.

5. PUBLIC HEARING:

- a. **Ordinance No. 2023-05:** An Ordinance declaring certain New Iberia Police Department vehicles as surplus and further authorizing the sale of same to a local Police Department, at a cost not less than \$17,000 in accordance with state law

Motion to open Public Hearing: Deedy Johnson Reid; Second: Brooke Marcotte

Public comment: None

Motion to close Public Hearing: Ricky Gonsoulin; Second: Marlon Lewis

- b. **Ordinance No. 2023-06:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to execute an Intergovernmental Contract by and between the Department of Environmental Quality of the State of Louisiana and the City of New Iberia related to the "City of New Iberia EVSE VW Settlement" (Electric Vehicles Charge Station) Project

Motion to open Public Hearing: Deedy Johnson-Reid; Second: Brooke Marcotte

Public comment: None

Motion to close Public Hearing: David Broussard; Second: Marlon Lewis

- c. **Ordinance No. 2023-07:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between the City of New Iberia and Metro Hospitality, LLC related to the Electrical Vehicles Charge Station Project

Motion to open Public Hearing: Marlon Lewis; Second: Deedy Johnson-Reid

Public comment: None

Motion to close Public Hearing: Ricky Gonsoulin; Second: Brooke Marcotte

- d. **Ordinance No. 2023-08:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between the City of New Iberia and Iberia Parish Government related to rabies control services within the city limits of New Iberia

Motion to open Public Hearing: Ricky Gonsoulin; Second: David Broussard

Public comment: None

Motion to close Public Hearing: Deedy Johnson-Reid; Second: Marlon Lewis

- e. **Special Ordinance No. 2022-2023-12 (Amendment #11):** An Ordinance amending the budget to reflect cost pursuant to the revised rabies control contract

Motion to open Public Hearing: Marlon Lewis; Second: Brooke Marcotte

Public comment: None

Motion to close Public Hearing: Deedy Johnson-Reid; Second: Brooke Marcotte

6. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION:

- a. **Ordinance No. 2023-05:** An Ordinance declaring certain New Iberia Police Department vehicles as surplus and further authorizing the sale of same to a local Police Department, at a cost not less than \$17,000, in accordance with state law

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

- b. **Ordinance No. 2023-06:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to execute an Intergovernmental Contract by and between the Department of Environmental Quality of the State of Louisiana and the City of New Iberia related to the “City of New Iberia EVSE VW Settlement” (Electric Vehicles Charge Station) Project

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

- c. **Ordinance No. 2023-07:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between the City of New Iberia and Metro Hospitality, LLC related to the Electrical Vehicles Charge Station Project

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Marlon Lewis

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

- d. **Ordinance No. 2023-08:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between the City of New Iberia and Iberia Parish Government related to rabies control services within the city limits of New Iberia

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by David Broussard

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

- e. **Special Ordinance No. 2022-2023-12 (Amendment #11):** An Ordinance amending the budget to reflect cost pursuant to the revised rabies control contract

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Marlon Lewis

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

7. **RESOLUTIONS:**

- a. **Resolution No. 23-18:** Supporting the dedication of Admiral Doyle Drive as Veterans Memorial Drive

Motion by Dustin Suire, seconded by Marlon Lewis:

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

- b. **Resolution No. 23-19:** Authorizing the mayor to execute documentation in connection with the national opioid litigation

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Brooke Marcotte:

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

- c. **Resolution No. 23-20:** Authorizing the mayor to execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement by and between the State of Louisiana, Division of Administration and the City of New Iberia related to Water Sector Program (Round 2) grant

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

- d. **Resolution No. 23-21:** Authorizing city officials/employees to sign the request for payment forms in connection with projects associated with the Water Sector Program (Round 2) grant

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

- e. **Resolution No. 23-22:** Approving Change Order No. 2 for the City of New Iberia Asphalt Overlay Project and authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

- f. **Resolution No. 23-23:** Authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection with State Project No. H.011781, LA 675 and LA 87 Improvements in New Iberia

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

- g. **Resolution No. 23-24:** Authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a contract with Royal Security Solutions, Inc. for the purchase and installation of security equipment at the former Park Elementary School

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

8. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

- a. **Special Ordinance No. 2022-2023-14 (Amendment #13):** An Ordinance amending the budget to reflect excess forfeiture receipt restricted to be used as narcotic and setting for public hearing on March 21, 2023.

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

- b. **Special Ordinance No. 2022-2023-15 (Amendment #14):** An Ordinance amending the budget to reflect security expenditures for acquired Park Elementary property and setting for public hearing on March 21, 2023.

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

- c. **Ordinance No. 2023-09:** An Ordinance amending approved budget allocations for American Rescue Plan Act funds received by the City of New Iberia and setting for public hearing on March 21, 2023.

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by David Broussard

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

- d. **Amendment to Ordinance No. 2023-03:** An Ordinance declaring certain New Iberia Police Department vehicles as surplus and further authorizing the sale of same to

Arnaudville Police Department, or any other agency, at a cost not less than \$17,000, in accordance with state law and setting for public hearing on April 4, 2023.

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin,
Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Dustin Suire
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. The Council discussed the response from DOTD regarding the proposed closure of the Deare Street railroad crossing.

10. COUNCIL REMARKS:

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. The next regularly scheduled city council meeting will be held on **March 21, 2023**.
- b. Reminder to council and citizens to participate in the MS4 Storm Water Survey at www.cityofnewiberia.com under Public Works section.
- c. **City of New Iberia currently has adjudicated properties available for sale at CivicSource.com.** To initiate the auction process on one or more properties, the investor must place a deposit of \$850 on each property, which starts the prerequisite legal research and notification process that is required before the auction takes place. The pre-sale process takes approximately 120 days to complete. If the current property owner pays all delinquent taxes and fees during the pre-sale period, the depositor is refunded the deposit and the sale is halted. Visit CivicSource.com to learn more.

- 12. **ADJOURN:** Unanimous motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

/s/Lanie Kerlegon
Lanie Kerlegon, City Clerk
City of New Iberia