

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND THE NEW IBERIA CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NEW IBERIA, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021 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 Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at Five-Thirty (5:30) p.m., (Central Standard Time). Present was 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 present was the City Attorney, Jeff Simon, and Jane Braud, sitting in for City Clerk, Erin Romero. Ms. Braud advised the Mayor the Council had a quorum.

The City Council of the City of New Iberia, State of Louisiana, was duly convened as the governing authority of 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. Deedy Johnson-Reid led the prayer and pledge.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

- a. Acceptance of the minutes of October 5, 2021 which will published on October 22, 2021.

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

3. PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL:

- a. Chloe Willis and her teacher, Margaret Simon, addressed and accepted a Certificate of Acknowledgement for winning Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes “Outstanding Elementary Project” with her research and documentary on her great-grandfather, Rev. Dr. T.J. Jemison.
- b. Chandler Staples addressed the Council and gave update on Jefferson Terrace Drainage Project - Phase II.

4. PUBLIC HEARING:

- a. **Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2020-2021-10 (Amendment #9):** An ordinance amending the budget to adjust within 5%.

Motion to open public hearing by Deedy Johnson Reid, seconded by Dustin Suire.

Public Comment:

Motion to close public hearing by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Brooke Marcotte .

5. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES:

- a. **Ordinance No. 2020-2021-10 (Amendment #9):** An ordinance amending the budget to adjust within 5%.

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
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

6. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

- b. Introduction of Ordinance No. 2021-16** – Grating a one year extension of the franchise granted to Louisiana Water Company by the City of New Iberia by Ordinance No. 2001-591 Adopted October 16, 2021, and to set for public hearing on November 2, 2021.

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
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

- c. Introduction of Ordinance No. 2021-17** – Authorizing a one year extension of the water service agreement between Louisiana Water Agreement between Louisiana Water Company and City of New Iberia and to set for public hearing on November 2, 2021.

Motion by Dustin Suire, seconded by Brooke Marcotte.

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

- d. Introduction of Ordinance No. 2021-18** – Authorizing the City of New Iberia, through the office of the Mayor to purchase and/or expropriate Parcel No. 0504824000, 1-45 x 90 Coleman, Bowman, Ferguson, Ferguson under and in accordance with LA RS 47:2236 and to set for Public Hearing on November 2, 2021.

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
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

7. RESOLUTIONS:

- a. Resolution 21-120:** Approving recommendation from the Municipal Civil Service Board for a two percent general increase for municipal classified employees to become effective November 1, 2021.

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Dustin Suire.

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

- b. **Resolution 21-121:** Approving recommendation from Municipal Civil Service Board for revisions to the Municipal Civil Service Salary Structure to reflect the increase in the range widths of pay grades 2 & 3 without affecting the minimum rates.

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
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

- c. **Resolution 21-122:** Approving recommendation from Municipal Civil Service Board for an additional one percent general increase for municipal classified employees to become effective December 5, 2021.

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Brooke Marcotte.

MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION 21-122, “APPROVING RECOMMENDATION FROM MUNICIPAL CIVIL SERVICE BOARD FOR AN ADDITIONAL ONE PERCENT -GENERAL INCREASE FOR MUNICIPAL CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES TO BECOME EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 5, 2021” TO INCLUDE ALL CITY EMPLOYEES MADE BY DEIDRE LEDBETTER, SECONDED BY MARLON LEWIS

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

Resolution 21-122 (as amended) Approving recommendation from Municipal Civil Service Board for an additional one percent general increase for municipal classified employees, and also approving an additional one percent general increase for all city employees to become effective December 5, 2021.

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin and seconded by David Broussard.

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

- d. **Resolution 21-123:** Authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between the City of New Iberia and Iberia Parish Communications District to provide emergency fire call taking and dispatch services to the City of 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
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

- e. **Resolution 21-124:** Authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract for professional services and approving selection of Demographer for reapportionment & redistricting services necessary as a result of 2020 Census data.

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid.

MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION 21-124 “AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND APPROVING SELECTION OF DEMOGRAPHER FOR REAPPORTIONMENT & REDISTRICTING SERVICES NECESSARY AS A RESULT OF 2020 CENSUS DATA” TO SELECT CEDRIC FLOYD AS DEMOGRAPHER BY MARLON LEWIS AND SECONDED BY DEEDY JOHNSON REID.

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

Resolution 21-124 (as amended) Authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract for professional services and approving selection of Cedric Floyd as Demographer for reapportionment & redistricting services necessary as a result of 2020 Census data.

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Brooke Marcotte.

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

- f. **Resolution 21-125:** Opposing the closure of any railroad crossings within the City of New Iberia.

Motion by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by David Broussard.

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

- g. **Resolution 21-126:** Approving contract for professional services between the City of New Iberia and Staples Engineering and Consulting, LLC for sidewalk construction along Dale Street to connect Bank Avenue and Jefferson Terrace Blvd.

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
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

- h. **Resolution 21-127:** Authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute contracts for professional services on projects allocated from the Cares Act funds to individual districts.

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Dustin Suire.

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

- i. **Resolution 21-128:** Awarding six month and annual bids for cleaning and maintenance supplies.

Motion by David Broussard, seconded by Dustin Suire.

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

- j. **Resolution 21-136:** Authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement between the City of New Iberia and Architect, Paul Allain, for professional services on the Interior Modifications to the 911 Building Project.

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
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

8. PROPERTY STANDARDS:

- a. **Public Hearing and Action (Resolution No. 21-129)** on the state of buildings located at 205 Hortense Street (District 6), per Resolution 21-71, as noticed and advertised on October 8, 2021.

Motion to open public hearing by Dustin Suire, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter.

Public Comment:

Motion to close public hearing by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin.

Resolution 21-129 - Declaring that the City shall proceed with the demolition and removal of the building(s) or structure(s), and the City of New Iberia shall file a Lien and Privilege for the cost of demolishing or removing the buildings or structures against the lot and improvements upon which the building or structure is situated, all as more fully provided by R.S. 33:4761 - 4766.

Motion by Dustin Suire, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin.

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

- b. **Public Hearing and Action (Resolution No. 21-130)** on the state of buildings located at 238 Johnson Alley (District 6), per Resolution 21-72, as noticed and advertised on October 8, 2021.

Motion to open public hearing by Dustin Suire, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid.

Public Comment:

Motion to close public hearing by Dustin Suire, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin.

Resolution 21-130 - Declaring that the City shall proceed with the demolition and removal of the building(s) or structure(s), and the City of New Iberia shall file a Lien and Privilege for the cost of demolishing or removing the buildings or structures against the lot and improvements upon which the building or structure is situated, all as more fully provided by R.S. 33:4761 - 4766.

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
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

- c. **Public Hearing and Action (Resolution No. 21-131)** on the state of buildings located at 1004 Park Avenue (District 4), per Resolution 21-73, as noticed and advertised on October 8, 2021.

Motion to open public hearing by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid.

Public Comment:

Motion to close public hearing by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid.

Resolution 21-131 - Declaring that the City shall proceed with the demolition and removal of the building(s) or structure(s), and the City of New Iberia shall file a Lien and Privilege for the cost of demolishing or removing the buildings or structures against the lot and improvements upon which the building or structure is situated, all as more fully provided by R.S. 33:4761 - 4766.

Motion by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin.

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

- d. **Public Hearing and Action (Resolution No. 21-132)** on the state of buildings located at 1204 Park Avenue (District 4), per Resolution 21-74, as noticed and advertised on October 8, 2021.

Motion to open public hearing by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid.

Public Comment:

Motion to close public hearing by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Dustin Suire.

Resolution 21-132 - Declaring that the City shall proceed with the demolition and removal of the building(s) or structure(s), and the City of New Iberia shall file a Lien and Privilege for the cost of demolishing or removing the buildings or structures against the lot and improvements upon which the building or structure is situated, all as more fully provided by R.S. 33:4761 - 4766.

Motion by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Brooke Marcotte.

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

- e. **Public Hearing and Action (Resolution No. 21-133)** on the state of buildings located at 315 St. Jude Ave (District 5), per Resolution 21-76, as noticed and advertised on October 8, 2021.

Motion to open public hearing by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin.

Public Comment:

Motion to close public hearing by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin.

Resolution 21-133 - Declaring that the City shall proceed with the demolition and removal of the building(s) or structure(s), and the City of New Iberia shall file a Lien and Privilege for the cost of demolishing or removing the buildings or structures against the lot and improvements upon which the building or structure is situated, all as more fully provided by R.S. 33:4761 - 4766.

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Dustin Suire.

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

- f. **Public Hearing and Action (Resolution No. 21-134)** on the state of buildings located at 318 Weeks Street (District 5), per Resolution 21-77, as noticed and advertised on October 8, 2021.

Motion to open public hearing by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid.

Public Comment:

Motion to close public hearing by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter.

Resolution 21-134 - Declaring that the building(s) or structure(s) be repaired to conform to the Building Code of the City of New Iberia and that the property owner return to the Board of Trustees for a 'revisit' on December 7, 2021 to give an update on the status of this property.

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
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

- g. **Action (Resolution 21-135)** on recent developments of state of building(s) located at 515 Daigre Street (District 2).

Motion to open public hearing Marlon Lewis, seconded by David Broussard.

Public Comment:

Motion to close public hearing by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter.

Resolution 21-135 - Declaring that the building(s) or structure(s) be repaired to conform to the Building Code of the City of New Iberia and that the property owner return to the Board of Trustees for a 'revisit' on December 7, 2021 to give an update on the status of this property.

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
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

- h. **Public Hearing** on the state of buildings located at 427 Field Street (District 5), per Resolution 21-70, as noticed and advertised on October 8, 2021.

Motion to open public hearing by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Deedy Johnson Reid.

Public Comment:

Motion to close public hearing by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin.

MOTION TO REMOVE FROM DEMO LIST MADE BY RICKY GONSOULIN, SECONDED BY DEEDY JOHNSON REID.

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

- i. **Public Hearing** on the state of buildings located at 124 Santa Ines (District 1), per Resolution 21-75, as noticed and advertised on October 8, 2021.

Motion to open public hearing by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter.

Public Comment:

Motion to close public hearing by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter.

MOTION TO REMOVE FROM DEMOLITION LIST MADE BY MARLON LEWIS AND SECONDED BY BROOKE MARCOTTE.

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

9. RECCOMENDATIONS FROM PLANNING AND ZONING:

- a. **Ordinance No. 2021-15** – Amending General Ordinance No. 304 of the City of New Iberia relative to rezoning property located 410, 414, 418, 420, 426, and 428 W. St. Peter Street from C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) to I-1 (Light Industrial) John Trappey, owner.

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
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. Marlon Lewis discussed Cleco Energy Corp’s rate increase and requested that the Public Service Commissioner appear before the Council to explain the rate increase or that a Resolution be drafted and added to the next agenda requesting same.

11. COUNCIL REMARKS:

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a) The next regularly scheduled city council meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021.
- 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.

14. UNANIMOUS MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 7:57

/s/ Erin Romero
Erin Romero, City Clerk
City of New Iberia, Louisiana