

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, April 4, 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 April 4, 2023 Five-Thirty-two (5:32) p.m., (Central Standard Time). Present were the Mayor, Freddie DeCourt, as well as the following members of the New Iberia City Council: Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, Dustin Suire, City Clerk, Lanie Kerlegon and City Attorney, Jeff Simon. Council member Brooke Marcotte was absent.

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 Ricky Gonsoulin led the prayer and pledge.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

- a. Acceptance of the minutes of March 6, 2023, which will be published on April 4, 2023.

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, and seconded by Dustin Suire:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

- b. Acceptance of the minutes of March 21, 2023, which will be published on April 4, 2023.

Motion by Marlon Lewis, and seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

3. PUBLIC HEARING:

- a. **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

Motion to open Public Hearing: Deedy Johnson-Reid 2nd Marlon Lewis

Public comment: NONE

Motion to close Public Hearing: Ricky Gonsoulin; 2nd Marlon Lewis

- b. **Ordinance No. 2023-10:** An ordinance authorizing the issuance by the City of New Iberia, State of Louisiana of its Taxable Sewer Revenue Bond (DEQ), in an amount not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000) and providing for other matters in connection therewith

Motion to open Public Hearing: Deedy Johnson-Reid; 2nd Marlon Lewis

Public comment: NONE

Motion to close Public Hearing: Ricky Gonsoulin; 2nd Deedy Johnson-Reid

- c. **Ordinance No. 2023-11:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement and Conveyance by and between the City of New Iberia, Iberia Parish Government, Iberia Parish Recreation and Playground Commission, and Segura Properties, LLC for the purchase of a parcel of property

Motion to open Public Hearing: David Broussard; 2nd Marlon Lewis

Public comment: NONE

Motion to close Public Hearing: Ricky Gonsoulin; 2nd Deidre Ledbetter

- d. **Special Ordinance No. 2022-2023-16 (Amendment #15):** An Ordinance amending the budget to reflect purchase of property for Acadian Acres detention pond

Motion to open Public Hearing: Deedy Johnson-Reid; 2nd Marlon Lewis
Public comment: NONE
Motion to close Public Hearing: Ricky Gonsoulin; 2nd Marlon Lewis

4. **ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION:**

- a. **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

Motion by Marlon Lewis, and seconded by David Broussard:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

- b. **Ordinance No. 2023-10:** An ordinance authorizing the issuance by the City of New Iberia, State of Louisiana of its Taxable Sewer Revenue Bond (DEQ), in an amount not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000) and providing for other matters in connection therewith

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, and seconded by David Broussard:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

- c. **Ordinance No. 2023-11:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement and Conveyance by and between the City of New Iberia, Iberia Parish Government, Iberia Parish Recreation and Playground Commission, and Segura Properties, LLC for the purchase of a parcel of property

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, and seconded by Marlon Lewis:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

- d. **Special Ordinance No. 2022-2023-16 (Amendment #15):** An Ordinance amending the budget to reflect purchase of property for Acadian Acres detention pond

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, and seconded by Marlon Lewis:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

5. **RESOLUTIONS:**

- a. **Resolution No. 23-30:** Rejecting bids for the Bank Avenue Park Renovations – American Rescue Plan Act Project.

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

- b. **Resolution No. 23-31:** Awarding contract to Patriot General Construction, LLC for the MLK Center Improvements for Boys and Girls Club – American Rescue Plan Project, and further authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Marlon Lewis, and seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid:

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

NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: **Brooke Marcotte**

- c. **Resolution No. 23-32:** Awarding contract to Minvielle Lumber Co. Inc. for the renovations to West End Park - American Rescue Plan Act Project, and further authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Marlon Lewis, and seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: **Brooke Marcotte**

- d. **Resolution No. 23-33:** Approving Certificate of Substantial Completion for the LA Pepperplex Artificial Field Turf Project and further authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, and seconded by David Broussard:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: **Brooke Marcotte**

- e. **Resolution No. 23-34:** Approving Certificate of Substantial Completion for the LA Pepperplex Sports Field Lighting Project and further authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, and seconded by Marlon Lewis:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: **Brooke Marcotte**

- f. **Resolution No. 23-35:** Authorizing the mayor to accept donations from AMTC 2 LLC and P.J. Allain Properties, LLC of servitudes for the Historic District Trails project along Bayou Teche, upon terms that he thinks appropriate, and further authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, and seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: **Brooke Marcotte**

- g. **Resolution No. 23-36:** Authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a contract for professional services with Staples Engineering and Consulting, LLC for the City of New Iberia Coulee Cleaning Project as related to the American Rescue Plan Act Drainage Cleanout Project

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, and seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: **Brooke Marcotte**

- h. **Resolution No. 23-37:** Committing to Cooperative Endeavor Agreement for American Rescue Plan Act Water Sector Program Grant Award and committing to local match

Motion by Marlon Lewis, and seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: **Brooke Marcotte**

- i. **Resolution No. 23-38:** Discuss and consider options for the proposed closure of the Deare Street or Caroline Street railroad crossings, as repeatedly requested by LA DOTD and further authorizing the mayor to forward council action to LA DOTD

A motion was made by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by David Broussard that the Council discuss and consider options for the proposed closure of the Deare Street or Caroline Street railroad crossings, as repeatedly requested by LA DOTD and further authorizing the mayor to forward council action to LA DOTD.

A substitute motion was made by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid that the New Iberia City Council adopt a Resolution committing up to a \$100,000 (20%) match toward the cost of installation of safety arms and lights at the Caroline Street railroad crossing.

YEAS: Marlon Lewis, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid, and Freddie DeCourt

NAYS: David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, and Dustin Suire.

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

- j. **Resolution No. 23-39:** Proclaiming April 10-14, 2023 as National Community Development Week in the City of New Iberia

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, and seconded by Dustin Suire:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

- k. **Resolution No. 23-40:** Authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a contract for professional services with C. H. Fenstermaker & Associates, L.L.C. for the City of New Iberia Louisiana Watershed Initiative/Acadian Acres Detention Pond Project

Motion by Marlon Lewis, and seconded by Deidre Ledbetter

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

- l. **Resolution No. 23-41:** Awarding contract to E&L Construction Group, LLC for the Sliman Theatre Interior Renovations Project, and further authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Dustin Suire, and seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

6. **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

- a. **Special Ordinance No. 2022-2023-17 (Amendment No. 16):** An Ordinance amending the budget to reflect funds apportioned to inform the public about millage renewal for road program and setting for public hearing on April 18, 2023

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, and seconded by Deidre Ledbetter:

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Brooke Marcotte

- b. **Ordinance No. 2023-12:** An Ordinance levying millages on the 2023 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by the City of New Iberia and setting for public hearing on April 18, 2023

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, and seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid:

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

7. COUNCIL REMARKS:

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. **Announcement of Public Meeting:** Notice is hereby given that at its meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 5:30 p.m., at its regular meeting place, the City Hall Council Chambers, 457 E. Main Street, New Iberia, Louisiana, the City Council of the City of New Iberia, State of Louisiana, plans to consider adopting a resolution ordering and calling an election to be held in the City of New Iberia, State of Louisiana to authorize the levy of ad valorem taxes therein.
- b. The next regularly scheduled city council meeting will be held on April 18, 2023.
- c. Reminder to council and citizens to participate in the MS4 Storm Water Survey at www.cityofnewiberia.com under Public Works section.
- d. **The 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.

9. ADJOURN: Unanimous motion to adjourn at 7:33pm.

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

