

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, FEBRUARY 4, 2025 AT 5:31 PM

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, February 4, 2025, at Five Thirty-One (5:31) 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, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle (exited the meeting at 6:15 p.m.). Also in attendance, Jeff Simon, City Attorney and Lanie Kerlegon, City Clerk. Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin were 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. Troy Comeaux led the prayer and pledge.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS (3 MINUTES PER PERSON):

NONE.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

- a. Regular meeting of January 23, 2025, which were published on January 29, 2025.

Motion by David Merrill, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin

Motion adopted.

3. PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL:

- a. Representatives of the Garon Paul Atkinson Lewis Foundation provided an update on the Teen Court Program.

4. ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION:

- a. **Ordinance No. 2024-35:** An Ordinance amending and reenacting Section 74, Article III of the City of New Iberia Code of Ordinances related to excavations on public property

Motion to open Public Hearing: Brooke Marcotte; 2nd Dan Doerle

Public comment: NONE.

Motion to close Public Hearing: David Merrill; 2nd Brooke Marcotte

A motion was made by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Ron Davis, that Ordinance No. 2024-35 be adopted at this time.

A motion was made by Dan Doerle, seconded by Brooke Marcotte, that Ordinance No. 2024-35 be amended to increase the penalty for violations of this Ordinance to \$250.00.

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin

Motion adopted.

A motion was made by Dan Doerle, seconded by David Merrill, that Ordinance No. 2024-35 be adopted, as amended.

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin

Motion adopted.

- b. **Special Ordinance No. 2024-2025-06:** An Ordinance amending the budget to carryover funds from the 2023-2024 fiscal year

Motion to open Public Hearing: Troy Comeaux; 2nd Brooke Marcotte
Public comment: NONE.
Motion to close Public Hearing: Brooke Marcotte; 2nd Troy Comeaux

Motion by Troy Comeaux, seconded by Ron Davis

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin

Motion adopted.

- c. **Special Ordinance No. 2024-2025-07:** An Ordinance amending the budget to provide for the purchase of barricades

Motion to open Public Hearing: David Merrill; 2nd Brooke Marcotte
Public comment: NONE.
Motion to close Public Hearing: Brooke Marcotte; 2nd David Merrill

Motion by Ron Davis, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin

Motion adopted.

- d. **Special Ordinance No. 2024-2025-08:** An Ordinance amending the budget to appropriate funds for economic development at the Pepperplex

Motion to open Public Hearing: Troy Comeaux; 2nd Brooke Marcotte
Public comment: NONE.
Motion to close Public Hearing: Brooke Marcotte; 2nd Troy Comeaux

Motion by Dan Doerle, seconded by Ron Davis

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin

Motion adopted.

- e. **Ordinance No. 2025-02:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute an agreement with Lard Oil Company for off-site fuel cards

Motion to open Public Hearing: David Merrill; 2nd Brooke Marcotte
Public comment: NONE.
Motion to close Public Hearing: Brooke Marcotte; 2nd Ron Davis

Motion by Ron Davis, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin

Motion adopted.

5. RESOLUTIONS:

- a. **Resolution No. 25-07:** A Resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a Section 179D Energy Efficient Commercial Buildings Deduction Allocation Form on behalf of Paul J. Allain, Architect APAC

Motion by David Merrill, seconded by Ron Davis

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin

Motion adopted.

- b. **Resolution No. 25-08:** A Resolution awarding contract for the purchase of an automated turf marking machine and authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

A motion was made by Dan Doerle, seconded by Troy Comeaux that the bids for the purchase of an automated turf marking machine are hereby rejected.

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin

Motion adopted.

6. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

- a. **Ordinance No. 2025-03:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute an agreement by and between the City of New Iberia and Minvielle & Associates, LLC for the administration of various grant projects and setting for public hearing on February 18, 2025.

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Ron Davis

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin

Motion adopted.

- b. **Ordinance No. 2025-04:** An Ordinance amending the City of New Iberia Code of Ordinances to provide for sale of adjudicated properties; and further providing with respect thereto

A motion was made by David Merrill, seconded by Ron Davis, that Ordinance No. 2025-04 be introduced at this time.

A motion was made by Troy Comeaux, seconded by Brooke Marcotte that Ordinance No. 2025-04 be introduced at this time, but the public hearing be postponed.

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin
ABSENT AT VOTING: Dan Doerle

Motion adopted.

7. PROPERTY STANDARDS:

- a. Discussion and Action related to 626 E. St. Peter Street (District 5) (**Resolution No. 25-06**)

NOTE: this item was deferred at the January 23, 2025 New Iberia City Council meeting.

A motion was made by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Ron Davis, that the New Iberia City Council discuss the property located at 626 E. St. Peter Street (District 5).

A motion was made by Ron Davis, seconded by David Merrill, declaring that the property owners of 626 E. Saint Peter Street (District 5) shall present an estimate of repairs to the building on said property by February 18, 2025, and shall have made progress on said repairs by March 18, 2025.

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, and Ron Davis
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin
ABSENT AT VOTING: Dan Doerle

Motion adopted.

A motion was made by Ron Davis, seconded by Troy Comeaux, that Resolution No. 25-06 be adopted, as amended.

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, and Ron Davis
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin
ABSENT AT VOTING: Dan Doerle

Motion adopted.

- b. **Resolution No. 25-09:** A Resolution declaring the building(s) or structure(s) located at 1608 Elm Street (District 3) is in a dilapidated and dangerous condition and setting date for public hearing on March 5, 2025.

Motion by Troy Comeaux, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Troy Comeaux, David Merrill, and Ron Davis
NAYS: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Warren White and Ricky Gonsoulin
ABSENT AT VOTING: Dan Doerle

Motion adopted.

8. COUNCIL REMARKS:

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. The next regularly scheduled city council meeting will be held on February 18, 2025.
- b. Reminder to council and citizens to participate in the MS4 Storm Water Survey at www.cityofnewiberia.com under Public Works section.
- c. **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.

10. ADJOURN:

Unanimous motion to adjourn at 6:53 p.m.

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