

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 2, 2024 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, April 2, 2024, 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, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, and Dan Doerle. Also in attendance, Jeff Simon, City Attorney and Lanie Kerlegon, City Clerk. Council member Deedy Johnson-Reid 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. Dan Doerle 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 March 19, 2024, which was published on April 3, 2024.

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin

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

Motion Adopted.

3. PERSONS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL:

- a. Troy Comeaux announced his candidacy for New Iberia City Councilman, representing District 3.

4. ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION:

- a. **Ordinance No. 2024-07:** An Ordinance declaring certain New Iberia Police Department vehicles as surplus and further authorizing the sale of same to civilians and other law enforcement agencies, at a cost not less than \$12,000 and \$20,000, in accordance with state law

A motion was made by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Marlon Lewis, that Ordinance No. 2024-07 be amended to authorize the sale of the surplus police vehicles at cost not less than \$12,000 and \$20,000, minus the cost of damage sustained from a tree falling on certain vehicles.

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

Motion Adopted.

Motion to open Public Hearing: Brooke Marcotte; 2nd Marlon Lewis

Public comment: NONE

Motion to close Public Hearing: Ricky Gonsoulin; 2nd Brooke Marcotte

A motion was made by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Marlon Lewis, that Ordinance No. 2024-07 be adopted, as amended.

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, and Dan Doerle
NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: Deedy Johnson-Reid

Motion Adopted.

- b. **Ordinance No. 2024-08:** An Ordinance amending and reenacting Section 14-3 of the City of New Iberia Code of Ordinances relative to the composition of the Dangerous Animal Committee

A motion was made by Ricky Gonoulin, seconded by Dan Doerle, that Ordinance No. 2024-08 be amended to authorize the mayor to appoint an alternate member of the committee to serve due to the absence of a quorum.

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

Motion Adopted.

Motion to open Public Hearing: Brooke Marcotte; 2nd Marlon Lewis

Public comment: NONE

Motion to close Public Hearing: David Broussard; 2nd Ricky Gonsoulin

A motion was made by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin, that Ordinance No. 2024-08 be adopted, as amended.

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

Motion Adopted.

- c. **Ordinance No. 2024-09:** An Ordinance amending approved budget allocations for American Rescue Plan Act funds received by the City of New Iberia

A motion was made by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Marlon Lewis, that Ordinance No. 2024-09 be amended to authorize the American Rescue Plan Act Project entitled “One Block at a Time 2 – Blighted Property” apply to residential property.

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

Motion Adopted.

Motion to open Public Hearing: Ricky Gonsoulin; 2nd Brooke Marcotte

Public comment: NONE

Motion to close Public Hearing: Brooke Marcotte; 2nd Marlon Lewis

A motion was made by David Broussard, seconded by Brooke Marcotte, that Ordinance No. 2024-09 be adopted, as amended.

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

Motion Adopted.

5. **RESOLUTIONS:**

- a. **Resolution No. 24-33:** A Resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a fee agreement related to lead-wrapped cable litigation

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Marlon Lewis

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Deedy Johnson-Reid

Motion Adopted.

- b. **Resolution No. 24-34:** A Resolution declaring April as “Fair Housing Month” in the City of New Iberia

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Deedy Johnson-Reid

Motion Adopted.

- c. **Resolution No. 24-35:** A Resolution approving Change Order No. 3 for the FY 2021 LCDBG Sewer System Improvements project and authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Deedy Johnson-Reid

Motion Adopted.

- d. **Resolution No. 24-36:** A Resolution authorizing the mayor to dedicate Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers to the Housing Authority of New Iberia to be used as Project-Based Section 8 Vouchers for the A.B. Simon, LP housing development project to be completed with Knight Development Co. LLC and further negotiate other terms as he sees appropriate

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Deedy Johnson-Reid

Motion Adopted.

- e. **Resolution No. 24-37:** A Resolution authorizing the use of remaining 2021 City of New Iberia Road Project funds to be used for preliminary engineering for the 2024 City of New Iberia Road Projects

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Marlon Lewis, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Deedy Johnson-Reid

Motion Adopted.

6. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR PUBLICATION:

- a. **Ordinance No. 2024-10:** An Ordinance levying millages on the 2024 tax roll on property subject to taxation by the City of New Iberia and setting for public hearing on April 16, 2024.

Motion by Dan Doerle, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

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

Motion Adopted.

- b. **Ordinance No. 2024-11:** An ordinance authorizing the City of New Iberia, State of Louisiana, to proceed with a not to exceed \$16,000,000 financing through the Louisiana Local Government Environmental Facilities and Community Development Authority and providing for other matters with respect thereto and setting for public hearing on April 16, 2024.

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin

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

Motion Adopted.

- c. **Ordinance No. 2024-12:** An Ordinance establishing a procedure for the sale or transfer of ownership of a retired police dog; and repealing all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict therewith and setting for public hearing on April 16, 2024.

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter

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

Motion Adopted.

- d. **Special Ordinance No. 2023-2024-18:** An Ordinance amending the budget to facilitate the costs related to Change Order No. 3 for the FY 2021 LCDBG Sewer System Improvements project and setting for public hearing on April 16, 2024.

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Marlon Lewis

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

Motion Adopted.

7. DISCUSSION ITEM:

- a. A discussion was had related to the American Rescue Plan Act Project entitled “One Block at a Time – 2: Blighted Property”

8. **COUNCIL REMARKS:**

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a. The next regularly scheduled city council meeting will be held on April 16, 2024.
- 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