

**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, NOVEMBER 7, 2023 AT 5:30 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, November 7, 2023, 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 (exited the meeting at 7:04 p.m.), 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. Brooke Marcotte led the prayer and pledge.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

**2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:**

- a. Regular meeting of October 17, 2023, which was published on October 21, 2023.

**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**

**Motion adopted.**

**3. PERSONS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL:**

- a. Wallace Ozenne addressed the Council on behalf of St. Edward Catholic Church.

**4. ORIDNANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION:**

- a. **Ordinance No. 2023-27:** An Ordinance amending Section 74 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of New Iberia related to urban camping in the City of New Iberia

Motion to open Public Hearing: David Broussard; 2<sup>nd</sup> Deedy Johnson-Reid

Public comment: None.

Motion to close Public Hearing: Deedy Johnson-Reid; 2<sup>nd</sup> Brooke Marcotte

**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**

**Motion adopted.**

**5. RESOLUTIONS:**

- a. **Resolution No. 23-165:** A Resolution providing for canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the special election held in the City of New Iberia, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, October 14, 2023, to authorize the levy of a special tax therein.

**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**

**ABSTAIN: NONE**

**ABSENT: NONE**

**Motion adopted.**

- b. **Resolution No. 23-166:** A Resolution authorizing the submittal of FY 2024/2025 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant application and entering into agreements associated with administration and engineering services

**Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, 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

**Motion adopted.**

- c. **Resolution No. 23-167:** A Resolution approving Change Order No. 1 for the American Rescue Plan Act Project entitled “Bank Street Park Improvements and Additions” and further authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

**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

**Motion adopted.**

- d. **Resolution No. 23-168:** A Resolution approving Change Order No. 1 for the American Rescue Plan Act Project entitled “West End Park Expansion” and further 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

**Motion adopted.**

- e. **Resolution No. 23-169:** A Resolution approving the Certificate of Substantial Completion for the American Rescue Plan Act Project entitled “West End Park Improvements” and further authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

**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

**Motion adopted.**

- f. **Resolution No. 23-170:** A Resolution authorizing the allocation of remaining funds from the City of New Iberia Asphalt Overlay and Concrete Street Repair Projects to the FY 2024 City of New Iberia Road Striping Project and road maintenance equipment

**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  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

**Motion adopted.**

- g. **Resolution No. 23-171:** A Resolution authorizing the mayor to execute a professional services contract with Berard, Habetz, and Associates for the City of New Iberia Pavement Marking Project and further authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

**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

**Motion adopted.**

- h. **Resolution No. 23-172:** A Resolution awarding contract to Minvielle Lumber Company for the Bayou Teche Museum (Phase III) Project and authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith, all contingent upon approval from the Louisiana Office of Facility Planning and Control

**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

**Motion adopted.**

- i. **Resolution No. 23-173:** A Resolution awarding contract to Iberia Aggregates and Construction Materials, LLC for Area A of the American Rescue Plan Act Project entitled “Drainage Cleanout” and further authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

**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  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

**Motion adopted.**

- j. **Resolution No. 23-174:** A Resolution authorizing and directing the mayor and/or his staff to execute the Louisiana Audit Compliance Questionnaire for and on behalf of the City of New Iberia

**Motion by Brooke Marcotte, 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

**Motion adopted.**

## **6. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

- a. **Introduction of Special Ordinance No. 2023-2024-02:** An Ordinance amending the budget to allocate funds for the Garon Paul Atkinson Lewis Foundation and setting for Public Hearing on November 21, 2023.

**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

**Motion adopted.**

- b. **Introduction of Special Ordinance No. 2023-2024-03:** An Ordinance amending the budget to allocate funds for the Hopkins Street Economic Development Authority and setting for Public Hearing on November 21, 2023.

**Motion by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin**

**YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, David Broussard, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, and Dustin Suire**  
NAYS: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE.  
**NO VOTE: Marlon Lewis and Deedy Johnson-Reid**  
ABSENT: NONE

**Motion adopted.**

- c. **Introduction of Ordinance No. 2023-28:** An Ordinance amending the approved budget allocations for American Rescue Plan Act funds received by the City of New Iberia (Amendment No. 8) and setting for Public Hearing on November 21, 2023.

**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

**Motion adopted.**

- d. **Introduction of Ordinance No. 2023-29:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a professional services contract with Berard, Habetz, and Associates for the FY 2024 City of New Iberia Streets Project and further authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith and setting for Public Hearing on November 21, 2023.

**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  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

**Motion adopted.**

- e. **Introduction of Ordinance No. 2023-30:** An Ordinance granting a franchise, right, and privilege to CLECO POWER LLC (“Company”), its successors and assigns, for a period of 27 years from the date this Ordinance becomes effective 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 roads, streets, alleys, ways, and public places, and other public servitudes within said Municipality, in connection therewith, for the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electric current, energy, power and/or service, fixing the terms, considerations and limitations thereof and providing for payment by the Company (its successors and assigns) of a sum equal to four percent (4%) of amounts received by said Company from the sale and/or delivery of electric service at retail for residential and commercial purposes based on residential and commercial net rates (unbundled rates in the event of deregulation) billed for service within the limits of said Municipality (exclusive of taxes and all governmental fees and impositions shown on such bills), as said limits may now or hereafter lawfully exist, and repealing all ordinances in conflict herewith and setting for public hearing on November 21, 2023.

**Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by David Broussard that the New Iberia City Council does hereby Call for the Question.**

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

**Motion failed.**

**Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Dustin Suire that Ordinance No. 2023-30 be introduced for publication.**

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

**Motion adopted.**

- f. **Introduction of Ordinance No. 2023-31:** An Ordinance authorizing the City of New Iberia to enter into an Electric Service Agreement and a Streetlighting Agreement with Cleco Power LLC and setting for public hearing on November 21, 2023.

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

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

**Motion adopted.**

**7. PROPERTY STANDARDS:**

- a. Revisit the state of the buildings located at 620 East Saint Peter Street (District 5) and Action (**Resolution No. 23-175**).

**Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter**

**Resolution No. 23-175:** A Resolution declaring that the buildings or structures at 620 East Saint Peter Street (District 5) shall 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 January 3, 2024 to give an update on the status of this property

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

**Motion adopted.**

- b. Revisit the state of the buildings located at 626 East Saint Peter Street (District 5) and Action (**Resolution No. 23-176**).

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

**Resolution No. 23-176:** A Resolution declaring that the buildings or structures located at 626 East Saint Peter Street (District 5) shall be demolished and removed by the property owners within thirty days of the date of this resolution and if the structure has not been demolished in thirty days, the city shall proceed with the demolition and removal of the

same, 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.

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

**8. FINANCE REPORTS**

- a. Kevin Zerangue presented budget-to-actual reports for November 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

**9. COUNCIL REMARKS:**

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a. The next regularly scheduled city council meeting will be held on November 21, 2023.
- b. Reminder to council and citizens to participate in the MS4 Storm Water Survey at [www.cityofnewiberia.com](http://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](http://CivicSource.com) to learn more.

**11. ADJOURN:**

Unanimous motion to adjourn at 8:31 p.m.

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