

**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, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 AT 5:31PM**

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, September 19, 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, Marlon Lewis, Ricky Gonsoulin, Deidre Ledbetter, Deedy Johnson-Reid and Dustin Suire. Also in attendance, Jeff Simon, City Attorney and Lanie Kerlegon, City Clerk. Council member David Broussard 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. Deidre Ledbetter led the prayer and pledge.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

- a. Acceptance of the minutes of September 5, 2023, which will be published on September 21, 2023.

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: David Broussard

3. PERSONS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL:

- a. Dr. Patrick "Shawn" Baquet announced his candidacy for Coroner of Iberia Parish.

4. PUBLIC HEARING:

- a. **Special Ordinance No. 2022-2023-30 (Amendment No. 29):** An Ordinance amending the budget for land purchase & road at Pepperplex

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

Public comment: None.

Motion to close Public Hearing: Deedy Johnson-Reid; 2nd Brooke Marcotte

- b. **Ordinance No. 2023-20:** An Ordinance ratifying the mayor's signature on a Purchase Agreement for a parcel of property located adjacent to the New Iberia Pepperplex and further authorizing the mayor to continue with the purchase said property and execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

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

Public comment: None.

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

- c. **Ordinance No. 2023-21:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute an Intergovernmental Agreement for Shared Sewer Services by and between the City of New Iberia and Sewerage District No. 1 of Iberia Parish

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

Public comment: None.

Motion to close Public Hearing: Brooke Marcotte; 2nd Dustin Suire

- d. **Ordinance No. 2023-22:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute an Act of Donation by and between the City of New Iberia and 5K Property Management, LLC for the donation of a parcel of property to the city in the Lil Brooklyn Neighborhood

Motion to open Public Hearing: Dustin Suire; 2nd Deedy Johnson-Reid
Public comment: None.
Motion to close Public Hearing: Brooke Marcotte; 2nd Ricky Gonsoulin

5. ORINANCES FOR ADOPTION:

- a. **Special Ordinance No. 2022-2023-30 (Amendment No. 29):** An Ordinance amending the budget for land purchase & road at Pepperplex

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin

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

- b. **Ordinance No. 2023-20:** An Ordinance ratifying the mayor's signature on a Purchase Agreement for a parcel of property located adjacent to the New Iberia Pepperplex and further authorizing the mayor to continue with the purchase said property and execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Dustin Suire

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

- c. **Ordinance No. 2023-21:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute an Intergovernmental Agreement for Shared Sewer Services by and between the City of New Iberia and Sewerage District No. 1 of Iberia Parish

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Marlon Lewis

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

- d. **Ordinance No. 2023-22:** An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute an Act of Donation by and between the City of New Iberia and 5K Property Management, LLC for the donation of a parcel of property to the city in the Lil Brooklyn Neighborhood

Motion by Dustin Suire, seconded by Marlon Lewis

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

6. RESOLUTIONS:

- a. **Resolution No. 23-145:** Approving Substantial Completion for the Steel Tank Painting and Blasting Project at the Sucrose Drive Wastewater Treatment Plant and authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter

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

- b. **Resolution No. 23-146:** Awarding Contract to Southern Constructors, LLC for the Sucrose Drive Wastewater Treatment Plant Backflow Preventor Project and authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Dustin Suire

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

- c. **Resolution No. 23-157:** Approving Change Order No. 2 for the LCDBG FY 2021 – Sewer System Improvements Project and authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

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

- d. **Resolution No. 23-147:** Approving Certificate of Substantial Completion for the Fulton Street Landing Project and authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

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

- e. **Resolution No. 23-148:** Rejecting bids received for the Bayou Teche Museum (Phase III) Project

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

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

- f. **Resolution No. 23-149:** Awarding contract to Cuzan Services, LLC for the American Rescue Plan Project entitled “Upgrades to Steamboat Pavilion” and authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

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

- g. **Resolution No. 23-150:** Approving Change Order No. 4 (Administrative) for the City of New Iberia Asphalt Overlay Project and authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter

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

- h. **Resolution No. 23-151:** Approving Certificate of Substantial Completion for the City of New Iberia Asphalt Overlay Project and authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

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

- i. **Resolution No. 23-152:** Approving execution of an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the city of New Iberia and the Iberia Parish School Board related to School Resource Officers for the 2023-2024 school year

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Marlon Lewis

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

- j. **Resolution No. 23-153:** Awarding six- and twelve-month bids for supplies

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

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

- k. **Resolution No. 23-154:** Accepting donation of property from Larry Miller to be used at the Senior Citizens Center at the former Park Elementary

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Marlon Lewis

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

7. **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

- a. **Introduction of Ordinance No. 2023-23:** An Ordinance amending approved budget allocations for American Rescue Plan Act funds received by the City of New Iberia (Amendment No. 7) and setting for Public Hearing on October 3, 2023.

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Marlon Lewis

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

- b. **Introduction of Ordinance No. 2023-24:** An Ordinance amending Section 2-76 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of New Iberia related to the filling of vacancies on city of New Iberia Boards, Commissions, and Authorities and setting for Public Hearing on October 3, 2023.

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Dustin Suire

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

ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: David Broussard

- c. **Introduction of Special Ordinance No. 2023-2024-01:** An Ordinance adopting the budget for the city of New Iberia for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2024 and setting for Public Hearing on October 3, 2023.

Motion by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Deidre Ledbetter

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

At this time, Mayor Freddie DeCourt stepped out of the meeting.

8. PLANNING AND ZONING:

- a. **Resolution No. 23-155:** A recommendation for final approval to consolidate lots at 403 Loreauville Rd. according to a plat of survey by Acadiana Surveying, Inc. dated 07/10/23.

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Dustin Suire

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

At this time, Mayor Freddie DeCourt returned to the meeting.

- b. **Resolution No. 23-156:** A recommendation for preliminary plat approval for a parcel of property on east saint peter street.

Motion by Marlon Lewis, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

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

9. PROPERTY STANDARDS:

- a. **Public Hearing and Action (Resolution No. 23-136)** on the state of buildings located at 620 East Saint Peter Street (District 5), per Resolution No. 23-96.

A motion was made by Deedy Johnson-Reid, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin, that Resolution No. 23-136, be adopted at this time.

Resolution No. 23-136: A Resolution declaring the building(s) or structure(s) located 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 owners return to the Board of Trustees for a ‘revisit’ on November 7, 2023 to give an update on the status of this property.

Motion by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

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

- b. **Public Hearing and Action (Resolution No. 23-137)** on the state of buildings located at 626 East Saint Peter Street (District 5), per Resolution No. 23-97.

A motion was made by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid, that Resolution No. 23-137, be adopted at this time.

Resolution No. 23-137: A Resolution declaring the building(s) or structure(s) located at 626 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 owners return to the Board of Trustees for a ‘revisit’ on November 7, 2023 to give an update on the status of this property.

Motion by Deidre Ledbetter, seconded by Deedy Johnson-Reid

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

10. COUNCIL REMARKS:

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. The next regularly scheduled city council meeting will be held on October 3, 2023.
- 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.

12. ADJOURN:

Unanimous motion to adjourn at 7:17 p.m.

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