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 15, 2025 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, April 15, 2025, at Five Thirty (5:30) 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, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle. Also in attendance, Jeff Simon, City Attorney and Lanie Kerlegon, City Clerk. Councilman Troy Comeaux 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. Brooke Marcotte 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 April 1, 2025, which were published on April 9, 2025.

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Warren White

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

3. PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL:

a. Dean and Catherine Wattigny announced the 2025 Bayou Side Run as well as Mental Health Awareness Month.

4. ORDINANCES FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION:

a. Ordinance No. 2025-07: An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a lease agreement by and between the City of New Iberia and CopyNet, LLC for the lease of a copy machine for the Public Works Department

Motion to open Public Hearing: David Merrill; 2nd Ron Davis

Public comment: NONE.

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

Motion by David Merrill, seconded by Warren White

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

b. Ordinance No. 2025-08: An Ordinance authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a Rights-of-Way Use Agreement with Classic Cable of Louisiana, LLC for fiber internet services in the City of New Iberia

Motion to open Public Hearing: Ricky Gonsoulin; 2nd Warren White

Public comment: NONE.

Motion to close Public Hearing: David Merrill; 2nd Ron Davis

Motion by Warren White, seconded by David Merrill

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

5. RESOLUTIONS:

a. Resolution No. 25-42: A Resolution appointing Dr. Lizabeth Clarke to the Squirrel Run Levee and Drainage District for the remainder of a four-year term created by the expiration of term of Dr. Lizabeth Clarke

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

b. Resolution No. 25-43: A Resolution awarding contract to NCMC, LLC for the Jean Street Pump Station Project and authorizing the mayor to execute any and all documentation in connection therewith

Motion by Warren White, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

c. Resolution No. 25-44: A Resolution accepting the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Environmental Audit Report and setting action to maintain permit requirements

Motion by Ron Davis, seconded by Warren White

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

d. Resolution No. 25-45: A Resolution authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a Master Professional Services Agreement by and between the City of New Iberia and Compliance Envirosystems, LLC for sanitary sewer evaluation services

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by David Merrill

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

e. Resolution No. 25-46: A Resolution authorizing the mayor to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement by and between the City of New Iberia, Iberia Parish Sewerage District No. 1, and AssureCo Risk Management and Regulatory Compliance, LLC d/b/a MunicipalH20 related to services at the Sucrose Drive Wastewater Treatment Plant

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by David Merrill

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

f. Resolution No. 25-47: A Resolution awarding 6-month bids for supplies

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Warren White

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

g. Resolution No. 25-48: A Resolution declaring April as "Fair Housing Month" in the City of New Iberia

Motion by Brooke Marcotte, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

h. Resolution No. 25-49: A Resolution declaring the attached list of properties to be in a dangerous and dilapidated condition, authorizing their inclusion in the FY 2023 LCDBG Clearance Program (Phase II) and further authorizing the mayor to execute agreements with property owners in connection therewith, contingent upon clean title search

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill, Ron Davis, and

Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: Warren White ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

Resolution No. 25-50: 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, March 29, 2025, to authorize the levy of a sales and use tax therein.

Motion by David Merrill, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

j. Resolution No. 25-51: A Resolution authorizing the publication of notice of the filing of a petition for annexation filed by Hebert Family Estate, LLC, et als, for annexation of an approximately 24.45 acres

Motion by Dan Doerle, seconded by Ron Davis

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

6. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

a. Introduction of Ordinance No. 2025-09: An ordinance providing for the levy within the City of New Iberia, State of Louisiana, effective July 1, 2025, of a 0.25% sales and use tax (the "Tax") upon the sale at retail, the use, the consumption, the distribution, the storage for use or consumption, and the lease or rental of tangible personal property, and the lease or rental of tangible personal property or digital products within the City, and upon sales of services in the City, and for the assessment, collection, payment thereof and the dedication of the proceeds of said Tax and the purpose for which the proceeds of the Tax may be expended, said Tax having been authorized at a special election held in the City on March 29, 2025, and setting for public hearing on May 6, 2025.

Motion by Dan Doerle, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

b. <u>Introduction of Ordinance No. 2025-10:</u> An Ordinance enlarging the boundaries of the City of New Iberia, Louisiana and amending the Charter of the City of New Iberia and setting for public hearing on May 6, 2025

Motion by Ricky Gonsoulin, seconded by Brooke Marcotte

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

7. FINANCE REPORTS:

- **a.** Babette Lastrapes presented the monthly budget to actual report for November 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.
- **8.** <u>AGENDA EXPANSION:</u> The purpose of this expansion is to expedite the commencement of this project as its completion is important to maintaining the integrity of the street.

Motion to expand the agenda by Dan Doerle, seconded by Ricky Gonsoulin

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

Motion to open Public Hearing: 1st: Ricky Gonsoulin; 2nd David Merrill

Public Comment: NONE.

Motion to close Public Hearing: 1st: Ricky Gonsoulin; 2nd Brooke Marcotte

a. <u>Resolution No. 25-52:</u> A Resolution rejecting the bids for the Pollard Street Sewer Replacement Project and authorizing the readvertisement request for sealed bids.

Motion by David Merrill, seconded by Ron Davis

YEAS: Brooke Marcotte, Warren White, Ricky Gonsoulin, David Merrill,

Ron Davis, and Dan Doerle

NAYS: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Troy Comeaux

Motion adopted.

9. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

10. COUNCIL REMARKS:

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. The next regularly scheduled city council meeting will be held on May 6, 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.

12. ADJOURN:

Unanimous motion to adjourn 6:18 p.m.

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