



Town of Berwick

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

October 14, 2008

AGENDA:

Call to Order: 7:00 P.M.

Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Edgar Thomas, Damon Robison, Duval Arthur, Penny Crappell, Troy Lombardo

Minutes from last meeting: September 9, 2008

Treasurer's Report

Guests:

Police Report

Fire Report

Public Works Report

Consulting Engineers Report

Committee Reports

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Jacki Ackel – Red Ribbon Committee
2. Tri City Track Club - Nicky Pecoraro – Parade Permit
3. Approve contractor payment No. 7 - \$16,551.49.
4. Set Trick or Treating for October 31, 2008 from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
5. Casey Callais, Chere Laiche – Recreation Committee

Adjournment

Newell W. Slaughter, Town Clerk

Town of Berwick

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**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE TOWN OF BERWICK, STATE OF LOUISIANA
TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY**

October 14, 2008

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Berwick, State of Louisiana, met in regular session at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall, Berwick, Louisiana, Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

There were present: Council members, Edgar Thomas, Damon Robison, Duval Arthur, Penny Crappell and Troy Lombardo.

Absent: None

Also present were representatives of The Daily Review, KQKI and KWBJ.

Mayor Pro-Tem Duval Arthur led the prayer.

Councilman Damon Robison led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Berwick, State of Louisiana were duly convened as the governing authority of said Town, by the Honorable Louis Ratcliff, Mayor, who then stated that the Mayor and Council were ready for the transaction of business.

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been reviewed, were approved without reading upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Troy Lombardo.

The Treasurer's report, having been reviewed, was approved without reading upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Troy Lombardo.

Chief James Richard presented the police report, a copy of which was included in each of the Councilmen's packets, for the month of September, 2008. Chief Richard stated that the speeding tickets issued for September, 2008 were a lot less than September, 2007. Chief Richard also compared citations and arrests for 2008 to 2007. Chief Richard thanked Parish Councilman Logan Fromenthal for his fine job of representing the Town of Berwick at the Parish Council meeting. After no further comments from the council or audience, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, Fire Department report.

Fire Chief Francis Fromenthal presented the fire report for September, 2008. Chief Fromenthal stated that the department worked 8 calls for the month. Fire Prevention Week was October 6-10 and approximately 300 elementary students toured the fire station. The Chief also visited the elementary school class of Mrs. McDonald. The annual Shrimp Gumbo fund raiser will be held on Saturday, November 1, the same weekend as the Shrimp and Petroleum Festival. Hydrant testing will begin the week of October 20, 2008. After no comment, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, the Public Works report.

A copy of the Public Works Report was included in the packet for each Councilman. Town Superintendent Allen Benoit was available for comment. Mr. Benoit stated that his crews had completed the cleanup after Hurricane Gustav and were getting back to normal operations. Town crews repaired a major water leak at the corner of Fairview and Gilmore Streets and the road has been reopened for traffic. The reconstruction/repairing of Fairview Drive, Third Street and Pattie Drive are complete. Approximately 20 of the primary and secondary conduit was installed for Phase III of Renwick Subdivision. The project should be 100% complete by the end of October. After no further comments, the Mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, committee reports.

Town Engineers, Miller Engineers & Associates, represented by Glen Miller, stated that the contractor had completed work on Phase III of Renwick Subdivision. A certificate of substantial completion was given to Mayor Ratcliff for his signature. Change order number was received on the project. Final drawings will be submitted to the Planning and Zoning Board at their next meeting. Final acceptance of the project by the council will also happen at the next council meeting. A small punch list of items will be presented to the town. Contractor pay request No. 8 has been submitted in the amount of \$16,551.49.

Gary Beadle, Planning and Zoning Director, stated that the Berwick Development District met and signed the documents for the transfer of the property for Phase III of Renwick Subdivision from the Town of Berwick to the Berwick Development District. The Planning and Zoning Board met and reviewed proposed changes to the Town of Berwick's zoning ordinances. The Economic Development Committee did not meet since the last council meeting. The Recreation Committee did have a meeting and had a presentation by Casey Callais. Councilwoman Penny Crappell stated that she had attended the first advisory board meeting for the Keep St. Mary Parish Beautiful campaign. The 21 member board met and elected officers. The Berwick members are Councilwoman Crappell and Ms. Charlie Ann Eues. Ms. Eues was elected Secretary. A mandatory class for the board members will be held at the St. Mary Parish Courthouse on October 23 from 1-2 P.M. for elected officials and from 1-5 P.M. for advisory board members. Keep America Beautiful officials will be conducting the class and will certify board members and elected officials that attend the class. After no further comments, the mayor moved on to the next item on the agenda, new business.

Item #1 on the agenda – Jacki Ackel – Red Ribbon Committee. Jacki Ackel with the Red Ribbon Committee addressed the mayor and council and thanked them for proclaiming the week of October 17-26 as Drug Free and Red Ribbon Week in the Town of Berwick. Mrs. Ackel wanted to announce that a parent/grandparent summit will be held at the Berwick Civic Center on Wednesday, October 27. The focus will be alcohol and tobacco. A nurse will be speaking on fetal alcohol syndrome. She invited everyone to attend. A motorcade will be held on Saturday, October 18. Berwick Police and Fire personnel will participate.

Item #2 on the agenda – Tri-City Track Club – Parade Permit. Upon motion by Duval Arthur and seconded by Penny Crappell, the parade permit was approved unanimously.

Item #3 on the agenda – Approve Contractor payment No. 7. Upon motion by Damon Robison and seconded by Edgar Thomas, the payment was approved unanimously.

Item #4 on the agenda – Set Trick or Treating for October 31, 2008 at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Ratcliff announced that Trick or Treating would be held in the Town of Berwick from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. on October 31, 2008.

Item #5 on the agenda – Casey Callais, Chere Laiche – Recreation Committee. Ms. Callais addressed the mayor and council and outlined plans for the upcoming year. The installation of new playground equipment at the Civic Center playground is awaiting the removal of the trees, old barrels and tires in the sand pit. Once the trees, barrels and tires are removed and bids are received, installation of the new playground equipment can begin. A quote for installation of swings at Pharr Park has been received.

Mayor Ratcliff announced that a meeting will be held on Thursday, October 16, to discuss updating the Town's web site.

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion by Edgar Thomas and seconded by Troy Lombardo, the meeting adjourned.

Louis Ratcliff - Mayor

ATTEST:

Newell W. Slaughter - CAO/Town Clerk