

**TOWN OF BERWICK
AGENDA
COUNCIL MEETING
October 14, 2003**

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 P.M.

PRAYER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

TREASURER'S REPORT:

POLICE REPORT:

FIRE REPORT:

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CONSULTING ENGINEERS REPORT:

1. **Resolution - Red Ribbon Week**
2. **Resolution - State Capital Outlay Funding Requests**
 - a) **Renwick Roadway Improvements**
 - b) **Dock Construction - Downtown Redevelopment**
 - c) **Equipment Storage Building**
 - d) **Pattie Drive Extension**
3. **Introduce Ordinance - Regulate Sexually Oriented Businesses**
4. **Make Appointment to Fire Department**
5. **Housing Authority Appointments**
6. **Resolution - Contract for Administrative Services with Community Design Group, Ltd. for the 2004/2005 Louisiana Community Development Block Program**

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

October 14, 2003

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, 2003 at seven (7:00) o'clock p.m.

There were present: Mayor Emmett Hardaway, and Councilmen, Louis Ratcliff, Ray Rasberry, Edgar Thomas, Jr., Bill Johnson and Elaine Cantrell.

Absent: None.

Also present were representatives of the Daily Review, Radio Station KQKI and Channel 39.

Mayor Hardaway led the prayer.

Louis Ratcliff 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 Hon. Emmett Hardaway, 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 on motion by Mr. Ratcliff and seconded by Mr. Thomas.

The Treasurer's report, having been reviewed, was approved without reading upon motion by Mr. Rasberry and seconded by Ms. Cantrell.

Chief Duval Arthur presented the police report, a copy of which was included in each of the Councilmen's packets, for the month of September 2003. Chief Arthur stated that according to the report ticket fines had doubled due to the many traffic citations issued. Chief Arthur was asked about the problems with accidents on the Hwy. 90 bridge. Chief Arthur stated that due to the 70MPH speed limit and the blind spots on the peaks of the bridge on both sides there were many accidents and the potential for many more dangerous situations. Chief Arthur was asked to contact Representative Jack Smith and request the procedure on procuring a warning sign on both sides of the peak, which would alert motorists to accidents or traffic hazards ahead. He said that he would do so. He will also speak to him concerning the flashing lights for the school zone on Hwy. 182. Chief Arthur said that Red Ribbon Week, October 17-26, 2003 was coming up and asked that the Mayor and Council approve a Resolution, item #1 on the agenda, supporting this week. After unanimous vote the Resolution was approved. Chief Arthur informed the public and the media that was present that Halloween would be observed Friday, October 31st.

Assistant Fire Chief Garrett Guillot stated that there were three fire calls for the month of September 2003: (1) Assistance for a structural fire in Morgan City, (2) A false alarm on Old Spanish Trail (3) Stand-by for extrication at Basin Fleeting. The Mayor proceeded to item #4 on the agenda, an appointment to the Berwick Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Ray Rasberry tendered his resignation as Chief of the BVFD. Mr. Rasberry served the BVFD for 44 1/2 years. The Mayor and Council expressed their gratitude and admiration for Mr. Rasberry and wished him well in his retirement. The Mayor appointed Garrett Guillot as Fire Chief. He then asked the Council for their approval. Upon motion by Mr. Ratcliff, second by Mr. Johnson and unanimous vote approval was given. The Mayor thanked Mr. Guillot for accepting the appointment and wished him well.

The Public Works report was the next item on the agenda. A copy of this report was included in the packet each Councilman received prior to the meeting. Mr. Benoit was unable to attend, so the Mayor will try to answer any questions anyone may have. Mr. Ratcliff noted that under the Streets Department,

Mr. Benoit stated that plans to repair 200' of wharf decking and foundation timbers are on the designing table at this time. Construction is scheduled to begin sometime in December or January utilizing town crews. Mr. Johnson asked about the Welcome to Berwick sign and its estimated completion date. Ms. Cantrell said that there was no timetable due to the fact that most of the labor is being donated.

Committee Reports: The Zoning Commission recommends that the Town Council approve the application for planning approval that the Early Learning Center located at 201 Tournament Blvd. be converted into a duplex apartment. The applicant Robert J. Businelle Co., Inc. has met all the criteria for implementing an R-2 District application into a B-1 District. Upon motion by Ms. Cantrell, second by Mr. Rasberry and unanimous vote approval was given.

Gulf South Engineers' monthly report was included in the packet, which each Councilman received prior to the meeting. There were four items as follows: (1) South LA 182 Pathway Extension, a pre-construction conference was held on August 7, 2003. Gray Bros. is the contractor with a contract price of \$149,356.24. Construction will begin when drier weather prevails. Contractor will have 45 working days to complete project. (2) State Capital Outlay 2002, the police department building addition was included in the 2002 State Capital Outlay Bill. Bids were received on Thursday, August 21, 2003. Bonneval Construction of Patterson submitted the lowest bid in the amount of \$252,000.00. State Capital Outlay funds are \$200,000.00. The Town of Berwick's share is thus \$52,000.00. State Office of Facility Planning just approved awarding of the construction contract. Bonneval Construction is signing the contract and getting insurance and bond documentation. As soon as this is received a pre-construction conference will be held (3) Downtown Redevelopment Master Plan – Application has been made to the 2003 LDOTD Enhancement Program for funding of the seawall pathway portion of the program. LDOTD did not have the funds to award all projects and this project was not awarded. (4) State Capital Outlay applications are due November 1, 2003. The Town would like to submit four applications for consideration. Resolutions, authorizing the submittal of these projects are item #2 on the agenda. The projects are: Pattie Drive extension, Roadway Improvements (LA 182 - Renwick Blvd.), Riverfront Dock (Downtown Plan) and Public Works Storage Building. All four Resolutions were approved upon motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Thomas.

Item #3 on the agenda - To introduce and Ordinance to adopt Chapter 21 of the code of ordinances and sections therein to regulate sexual oriented businesses. To define such businesses and to set the zoning for such businesses, etc. These businesses would only be permitted in areas zoned M-1. Upon motion by Mr. Rasberry, second by Ms. Cantrell and unanimous approval the Ordinance was introduced.

Item #5 on the agenda - The Mayor asked for the Council's approval to reappoint Duval Arthur and Lillie Rebaridi to serve on the Berwick Housing Authority Board. Approval was given upon motion by Ms. Cantrell and second by Mr. Ratcliff.

Item #6 on the agenda - A Resolution to contract for Administrative Services with Community Design Group, Ltd. for the 2004/2005 Louisiana Community Development Block Program. The Resolution was unanimously approved upon motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Rasberry.

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting adjourned.

Emmett Hardaway, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cathy T. Guidry, Town Clerk